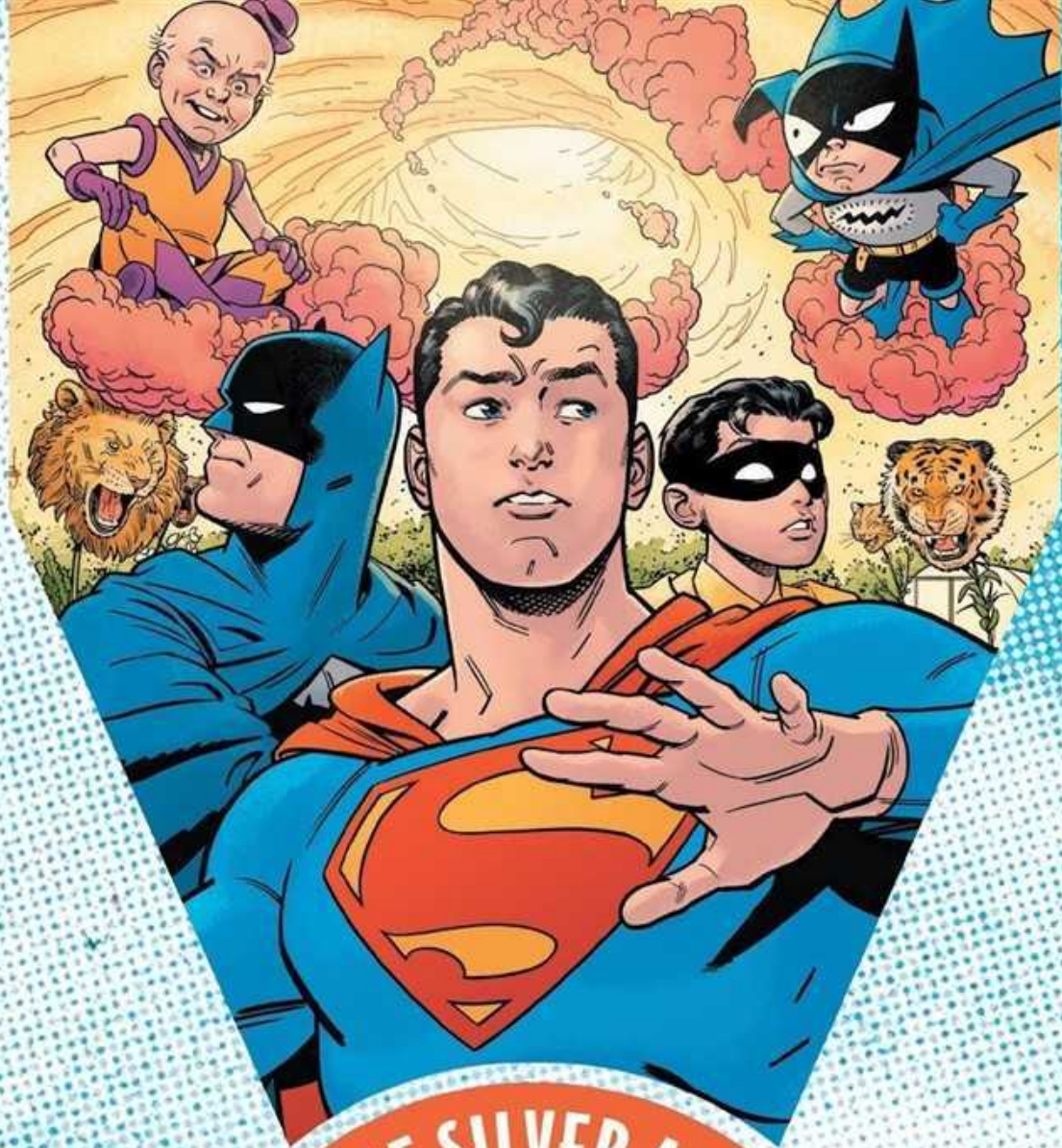
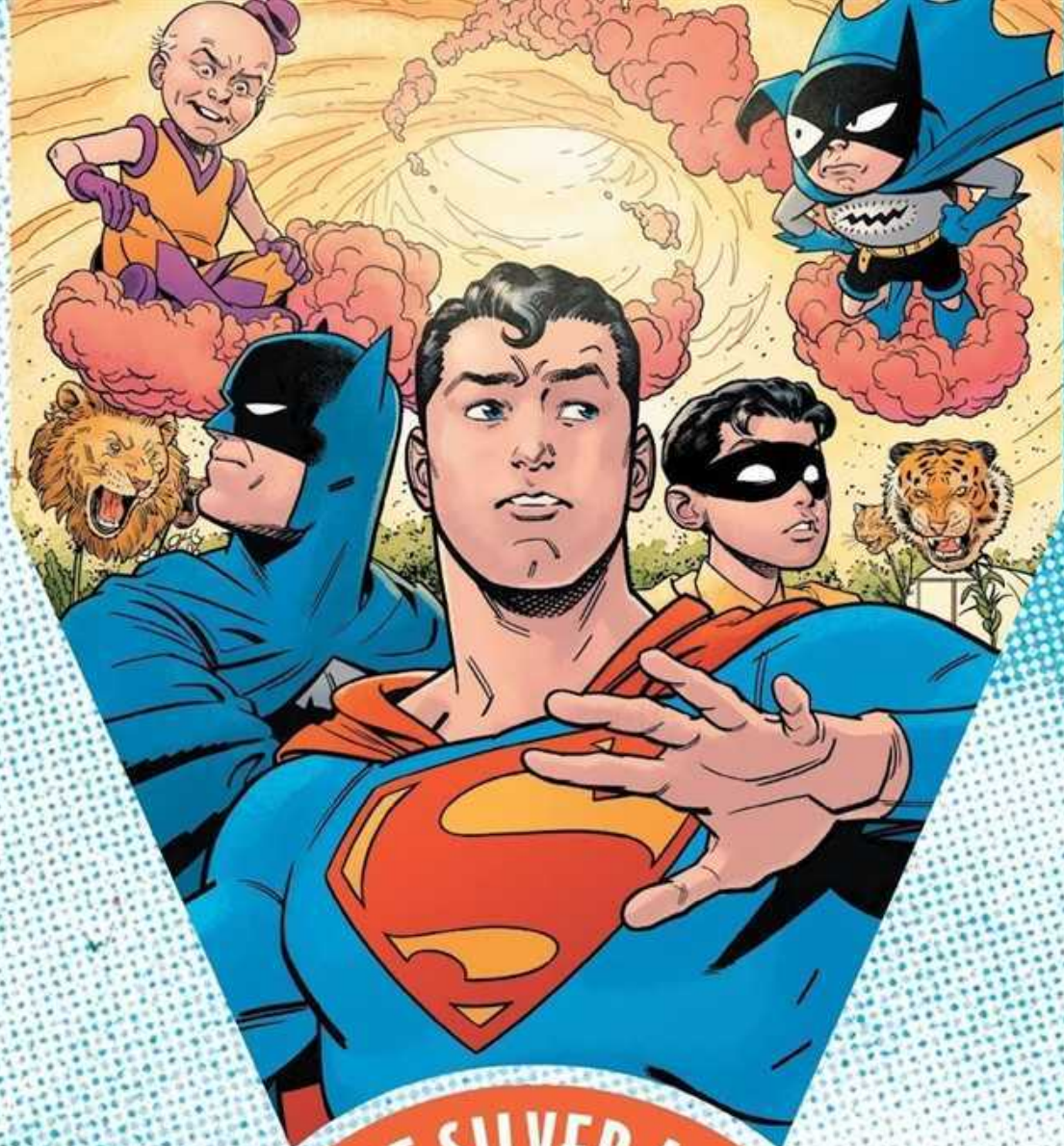




THE SILVER AGE
BATMAN
**WORLD'S
FINEST**
SUPERMAN
VOLUME TWO





THE SILVER AGE
BATMAN
**WORLD'S
FINEST**
SUPERMAN
VOLUME TWO

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BATMAN & SUPERMAN IN WORLD'S FINEST COMICS: THE SILVER AGE VOLUME 2

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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #95 July/August 1958
"The Battle of the Super-Heroes"

Cover art by Curt Swan and Stan Kaye
Writer: Edmond Hamilton
Penciller: Dick Sprang
Inker: Ray Burnley

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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #100 March 1959
"The Dictator of Krypton City"

Cover art by Curt Swan and Stan Kaye
Writer: Bill Finger
Penciller: Dick Sprang
Inker: Stan Kaye

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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #96 September 1958
"The Super-Foes From Planet X"

Cover art by Curt Swan and Stan Kaye
Writer: Edmond Hamilton
Penciller: Dick Sprang
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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #101 May 1959
"The Menace of the Atom-Master"

Cover art by Curt Swan and Ray Burnley
Writer: Bill Finger
Penciller: Dick Sprang
Inker: Charles Paris

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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #97 October 1958
"The Day Superman Betrayed Batman"

Cover art by Curt Swan and Stan Kaye
Writer: Bill Finger
Penciller: Dick Sprang
Inker: Stan Kaye

34

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #102 June 1959
"The Govenman From Krypton"

Cover art by Curt Swan and Stan Kaye
Writer: Bill Finger
Penciller: Dick Sprang
Inker: Sheldon Moldoff

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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #98 December 1958
"The Menace of the Moonmen"

Cover art by Curt Swan and Stan Kaye
Writer: Bill Finger
Penciller: Dick Sprang
Inker: Stan Kaye

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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #103 August 1959
"The Secret of the Sorcerer's Treasure"

Cover art by Curt Swan and Stan Kaye
Writer: Bill Finger
Penciller: Dick Sprang
Inker: Sheldon Moldoff

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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #99 February 1959
"Batman's Super-Spending Spree"

Cover art by Curt Swan and Stan Kaye
Writer: Bill Finger
Penciller: Dick Sprang
Inker: Stan Kaye

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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #104 September 1959
"The Plot to Destroy Superman"

Cover art by Curt Swan and Stan Kaye
Writer: Bill Finger
Penciller: Dick Sprang
Inkers: Dick Sprang and Sheldon Moldoff

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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #105 November 1959
"The Alien Superman"

Cover art by Curt Swan and Stan Kaye
Writer: Bill Finger
Penciller: Dick Sprang
Inkers: Dick Sprang and Sheldon Moldoff
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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #111 August 1960
"Superman's Secret Kingdom"

Cover art by Curt Swan and Sheldon Moldoff
Writer: Bill Finger
Penciller: Dick Sprang
Inkers: Dick Sprang and Sheldon Moldoff
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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #106 December 1959
"The Duplicate Man"

Cover art by Curt Swan and Stan Kaye
Writer: Bill Finger
Penciller: Dick Sprang
Inker: Sheldon Moldoff
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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #112 September 1960
"The Menace of Superman's Pet"

Cover art by Curt Swan and Sheldon Moldoff
Writer: Jerry Coleman
Penciller: Dick Sprang
Inker: Sheldon Moldoff
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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #107 February 1960
"Secret of the Time Creature"

Cover art by Curt Swan and Stan Kaye
Writer: Bill Finger
Penciller: Dick Sprang
Inker: Sheldon Moldoff
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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #113 November 1960
"Bat-Mite Meets Mr. Mxyzptlk"

Cover art by Curt Swan and Stan Kaye
Writer: Jerry Coleman
Penciller: Dick Sprang
Inker: Sheldon Moldoff
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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #108 March 1960
"The Star Creatures"

Cover art by Curt Swan and Stan Kaye
Writer: Jerry Coleman
Penciller: Dick Sprang
Inker: Sheldon Moldoff
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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #114 December 1960
"Captives of the Space Globes"

Cover art by Curt Swan and Stan Kaye
Writer: Jerry Coleman
Penciller: Dick Sprang
Inker: Sheldon Moldoff
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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #109 May 1960
"The Bewitched Batman"

Cover art by Curt Swan and Stan Kaye
Writer: Jerry Coleman
Penciller: Dick Sprang
Inker: Stan Kaye
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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #115 February 1961
"The Curse That Doomed Superman"

Cover art by Curt Swan and Sheldon Moldoff
Writer: Jerry Coleman
Penciller: Dick Sprang
Inkers: Dick Sprang and Sheldon Moldoff
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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #110 June 1960
"The Alien Who Doomed Robin"

Cover art by Curt Swan and Sheldon Moldoff
Writer: Jerry Coleman
Penciller: Dick Sprang
Inkers: Dick Sprang and Sheldon Moldoff
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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #116 March 1961
"The Creature From Beyond"

Cover art by Curt Swan and Sheldon Moldoff
Writer: Jerry Coleman
Penciller: Curt Swan
Inker: Stan Kaye
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WORLD'S FINEST

COMICS

Featuring
**"BATTLE
of the
SUPER-
HEROES!"**



SINCE **BATMAN**
GOT THOSE
SUPER-POWERS,
HE AND **SUPERMAN**
HAVE BECOME
BITTER ENEMIES!

YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES

SUPERMAN
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

and

BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
"THE BOY WONDER"

NO FRIENDSHIP IS MORE FAMOUS THAN THAT OF **BATMAN AND SUPERMAN!** SIDE BY SIDE, TIME AND AGAIN, THESE TWO HEROIC FIGURES HAVE FOUGHT LIKE ONE AGAINST ALL EVIL! BUT SUDDENLY--WITHOUT ANY LOGICAL REASON--**BATMAN** AND **SUPERMAN** BECOME BITTER ENEMIES IN A TERRIBLE FEUD, AND **ROBIN**, LIKE THE REST OF THE WORLD, IS STUNNED TO SEE THEIR HATRED FLARE UP INTO...

The BATTLE OF THE SUPER-HEROES

IN ONE
ADVENTURE
Together!

HEY--STOP
INTERFERING! IF
ANYBODY PUTS OUT
THAT FIRE, IT'LL BE
ME.

AND IF
ANYBODY PUTS
YOU OUT, IT'LL
BE ME.



AS THEY DO EVERY NIGHT, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** BEGIN THEIR ROUTINE PATROL OF GOTHAM CITY...

STRANGE HOW I BLACKED OUT A WHILE AGO WHEN I WAS WORKING IN THE **BATCAVE**. I MUST HAVE HAD A DIZZY SPELL. NO REASON TO TELL **ROBIN** ABOUT IT--HE MIGHT START TO WORRY ABOUT MY HEALTH.

SUDDENLY...

BATMAN--LOOK! A FIRE IN THAT CONDEMNED BUILDING ADJOINING THE BANK!

AS THEY APPROACH, A CAR CAREENS FROM THE BANK...

BANDITS! THEY MUST HAVE STARTED THE FIRE AS A DIVERSION, SO THEY COULD ROB THE BANK AND ESCAPE!

MAYBE I CAN JUMP INTO THE TRUNK.

BUT TO **BATMAN'S** AMAZEMENT, HIS LEAP CARRIES HIM FAR BEYOND THE SEDAN...

WHAT...
?!?

UNABLE TO STOP, THE CAR HURTTLES INTO **BATMAN**--AND STOPS AS IF CRASHING INTO A STEEL WALL!

WHY--I'M NOT EVEN HURT--AND LOOK WHAT HAPPENED TO THE CAR!

CRASH!

A SUSPICION OF THE TRUTH CROSSES **BATMAN'S** MIND--AND HE PUTS IT TO THE TEST!

THIS PROVES IT! **ROBIN**--I DON'T KNOW HOW IT HAPPENED--BUT I'VE SUDDENLY GOT **SUPER-POWERS!**

GOLLY! JUST LIKE **SUPERMAN!**

I'LL TURN THESE CROOKS OVER TO THE PATROLMAN ON THE BEAT, AND BE RIGHT BACK!

MOMENTS LATER, **SUPERMAN** HIMSELF, RETURNING TO METROPOLIS, IS SOARING OVER GOTHAM CITY...

I JUST CAN'T UNDERSTAND HOW I HAPPENED TO BLACK OUT BEFORE! UH-OH! A FIRE BELOW-- AND THERE'RE **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**! BUT THIS IS A JOB FOR **SUPERMAN**!

USING HIS NEWLY-ACQUIRED SUPER-STRENGTH, **BATMAN** CRUSHES A MASS OF STEEL INTO A GREAT BALL, AT A NEARBY JUNKYARD...

OKAY, **BATMAN**-- RELAX! I'LL HANDLE THIS!

YOU! WHO ASKED YOU TO BUTT IN?

I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS WITHOUT ANY HELP FROM YOU!

I--I DON'T UNDERSTAND **BATMAN**, **SUPERMAN**! HE NEVER REFUSED YOUR HELP BEFORE-- BUT NOW THAT HE'S SUDDENLY GOT SUPER-POWERS LIKE YOU...

LIKE ME? I'M THE ORIGINAL **SUPERMAN**, SONNY-- AND DON'T YOU FORGET IT!

HMMPH! LOOK AT HIM-- COPYING MY TRICK!

WHAT PLAYS? **BATMAN** AND **SUPERMAN** ALWAYS WERE PALS-- BUT NOW THEY ACT AS IF THEY DISLIKE EACH OTHER!

HAVING CONVERTED THE STEEL INTO A GIGANTIC BUZZ-SAW, **BATMAN** NEATLY SHEERS THE FLAMING BUILDING AWAY FROM THE BANK...

THE BANK WON'T BE IN ANY DANGER NOW!

SUPERMAN! THE WIND IS WHIPPING THOSE FLAMING CINDERS TOWARD THOSE HOUSES! THEY'LL CATCH FIRE UNLESS YOU DO SOMETHING FAST!

OH--ALL RIGHT, I'LL DO IT TO HELP THE PEOPLE IN THOSE APARTMENTS--NOT **BATMAN!**

SWIFTLY, SUPERMAN SCOOPS UP THE BLAZING BUILDING AND SOARS SKYWARD--BUT NOT ALONE!

HEY--STOP INTERFERING! IF ANYBODY PUTS OUT THAT FIRE, IT'LL BE ME!

AND IF ANYBODY PUTS **YOU** OUT, IT'LL BE **ME!**

UP, UP, ROCKETS **SUPERMAN**--BEYOND THE AIRLESS STRATOSPHERE--WHERE THE LACK OF OXYGEN SNUFFS OUT THE FLAMES!

FROM NOW ON, STAY OUT OF GOTHAM CITY!

AND I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU AROUND METROPOLIS! YOU STAY IN YOUR TOWN AND I'LL STICK TO MINE.

AND AS THE TWO ALIGHT, STILL ARGUING...

WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU TWO?

I DON'T KNOW, **ROBIN**--BUT ALL OF A SUDDEN I CAN'T STAND **BATMAN!**

AND I FEEL THE SAME WAY ABOUT **SUPERMAN!**

NEXT DAY, THE NATION IS SHOCKED BY ASTONISHING HEADLINES...

BATMAN GETS SUPER-POWERS AND MAKES SUPER-ENEMY!

BATMAN-SUPERMAN FRIENDSHIP ENDS!

FINAL IN BITTER SUPER-HEROES FEUD!

GOETHAM GAZETTE CAUSE OF SUPER-FEUD IS SUPER-MYSTERY

LATER, ON PATROL, AS **BATMAN** PICKS UP AN ALARM FROM **METROPOLIS** VIA HIS SUPER-HEARING...

CALLING **SUPERMAN** TO SLOCUM VALLEY!

HMHP! **SUPERMAN!** WHAT DO PEOPLE THINK HE CAN DO THAT I CAN'T?

UH-OH! ANOTHER ARGUMENT COMING UP! GOSH--IF I ONLY KNEW WHY THEY SUDDENLY BECAME ENEMIES!

AND WHEN **SUPERMAN** REACHES SLOCUM VALLEY...

OUR CROPS WILL FREEZE UNLESS YOU CAN MELT THE SNOW INSTANTLY!

HMMM! THAT MOUNTAIN OVER-LOOKING THE VALLEY-- IF I COULD SHAPE IT INTO A CONE--AND POLISH IT...



JUST AS **SUPERMAN** BEGINS HIS TASK, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** ARRIVE...

SO HE INTENDS TO CONVERT THE MOUNTAIN FACE INTO A **SOLAR MIRROR**! WELL, I'LL TRY THE HEAT OF MY X-RAY VISION AND DO IT MY OWN WAY!

NEITHER ONE WILL FINISH THE JOB IN TIME TO SAVE THE CROPS, BUT IF I CAN GET THEM TO WORK TOGETHER...



BATMAN, HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO GET EVEN WITH **SUPERMAN**! HE DIDN'T LET YOU FINISH YOUR JOB ALONE LAST NIGHT-- NOW YOU CAN DO THE SAME TO HIM!

HMM... YOU'RE RIGHT, I'LL SHOW HIM!

AND AS **SUPERMAN** FINISHES SHAPING THE ROCK FACE, HE HAS AN UNWELCOME COLLABORATOR!

BEAT IT, **BATMAN**--! DON'T NEED YOU TO POLISH OFF THIS MOUNTAIN!

HAH! YOU COULDN'T EVEN POLISH YOUR SHOES!



AND IN SPITE OF THE ARGUMENT, THE JOB IS DONE AS THE "SOLAR MIRROR" CONCENTRATES THE SUN'S HEAT ON THE SNOW, MELTING IT!

PLEASE STOP IT! NOW YOU MUST DESTROY THE MIRROR BEFORE ITS TERRIFIC HEAT BURNS UP THE CROPS!



YOU'RE RIGHT, **ROBIN!**
BUT I WISH THIS
WERE **BATMAN'S**
FACE!

AND IF ONLY
THIS WERE YOURS,
SUPERMAN!

CRA-CK!

CRASH!

LATER, IN THE **BATCAVE...**

... AND SO ALL THE WORLD IS
WONDERING WHY **BATMAN** AND **SUPERMAN**
HAVE BECOME SUCH BITTER ENEMIES!
PERHAPS **ROBIN** KNOWS--
BUT IF HE DOES, HE
ISN'T TELLING...

I WISH I
DID KNOW,
BUT I'M STILL
IN THE DARK!

NOW FOR THE LOCAL
NEWS! A TERRIBLE
HURRICANE IS SWEEPING
TOWARDS GOTHAM CITY!
CITIZENS ARE WARNED
TO STAY INDOORS!

A HURRICANE!
LET'S GO, **ROBIN**--
I CAN USE MY
SUPER-POWERS
TO STOP IT!

AS THE HOLOCAUST RAGES TOWARD THE CITY...

ONLY ONE THING TO DO -- BLOW THE
STORM **AWAY** FROM THE CITY! TO DO THAT,
I'LL MAKE HUGE BLADES OUT OF THIS
SCRAP METAL!

MINUTES LATER, WHIRLING
LIKE A SUPER-DYNAMO...

UH-- THIS
WIND IS--
STRONGER--
THAN I
THOUGHT!

MEANWHILE, INFORMED OF THE HURRICANE,
SUPERMAN RUSHES TO THE CITY...

SO THAT'S WHAT **BATMAN'S** UP TO! HMM!
I'LL BUILD MY OWN BLADES TO SHOW HIM
HOW AN EXPERT BREAKS UP A
HURRICANE!

HE MAY BE TOO
LATE! **BATMAN** IS
FINDING IT TOUGH, WORKING
ALONE! BUT IF I CAN
TRICK **SUPERMAN**
INTO HELPING HIM...

BATMAN CAN'T
MAKE THOSE BLADES
SPIN FAST ENOUGH!
WHY DON'T YOU SHOW
HIM HOW TO REALLY
OPERATE THEM?

GOOD IDEA, **ROBIN!**
I'LL GIVE HIM A
LESSON IN SUPER-
SPEED!

A MOMENT LATER--WHIRLING AT
EYE-BLURRING SPEED, TWO SUPER-
POWERFUL FIGURES FIGHT THE
STORM--AND EACH OTHER!

WHO INVITED
YOU? GO BACK
TO METROPOLIS
WHERE YOU
BELONG!

AND LET
YOU TAKE ALL
THE CREDIT FOR
THIS FEAT?
NO, SIR!

AS THE HURRICANE
SUBSIDES...

PLEASE, FELLERS--
WHY DON'T YOU SHAKE
HANDS AND
BE FRIENDS
AGAIN?

WHAT--?
SHAKE
HANDS WITH
HIM?!

HMM! WHY
NOT? HOW
ABOUT IT,
BATMAN,
OLD PAL?

SURE,
SUPERMAN,
OLD BUDDY--
LET'S
SHAKE!

GIVE UP,
BATMAN?

SAY,
"UNCLE!"

HOW--HOW
IS IT ALL
GOING TO
END?

AND BEFORE ROBIN'S ASTONISHED EYES, THE
BATTLE OF THE CENTURY BEGINS!



AND THEN THE EARTH
SHUDDERS UNDER THE
IMPACT OF TWO TITANS
CRASHING TOGETHER!



SUDDENLY...

BATMAN! SUPERMAN!
A COUPLE OF LOOTERS
WHO TOOK ADVANTAGE
OF THE HURRICANE!
STOP THEM!



INSTANTLY, **ROBIN** LEAPS, AND AS
THE BOULDER SLAMS DOWN, HE IS
CATAPULTED FORWARD...



HERE I GO!
I HOPE I LAND
RIGHT--

BUT THE TWO BATTLERS ARE SO INTENT, THEY DO
NOT HEED **ROBIN'S** WARNING...



THOSE
THIEVES WILL
GET AWAY
UNLESS-- WAIT--
THAT BOULDER
BATMAN THREW
AT **SUPERMAN**--
IT'S FALLING
TOWARD THAT
PLANK!



-- I DID!

IT WORKED OUT
BETTER THAN I
EXPECTED!



AS **ROBIN** DRAGS HIS PRISONERS ASHORE,
THE SUPER-BATTLERS SUDDENLY STOP...

YOU SHOULD BOTH BE
ASHAMED! YOU'VE BEEN
SO BUSY FIGHTING,
YOU'VE FORGOTTEN
YOU'VE GOT OTHER
JOBS TO DO!

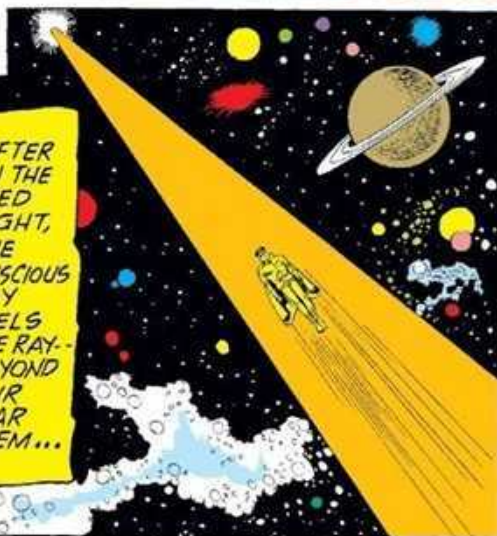
IT WASN'T
MY FAULT!
HE
STARTED
IT!

AND I'LL
FINISH
IT-- RIGHT
NOW!





SWIFTER THAN THE SPEED OF LIGHT, THE UNCONSCIOUS BOY TRAVELS UP THE RAY-- UP BEYOND OUR SOLAR SYSTEM...



"WE NOT ONLY TRANSPORTED **BATMAN** HERE TO BE SUBJECTED TO OUR SUPER-POWER-RAY, BUT **SUPERMAN** AS WELL..."

BATMAN
IS NOW A
SUPERMAN,
TOO!

AND NOW WE'LL
SUBJECT THESE
FRIENDS TO THE
HATE-RAY--SO
THEY'LL BECOME
BITTER RIVALS
AND INTENSIFY
OUR CONTEST!

NATURALLY, BEFORE
WE RETURNED THEM
TO EARTH, WE ALSO
EXPOSED THEM TO
THE **AMNESIA-RAY**
SO THEY WOULDN'T
REMEMBER WHAT
HAPPENED HERE!

NOW, WITH YOU
REMOVED, THE
CONTEST WILL
CONTINUE--SO LONG
AS THIS SWITCH IS
ON TO KEEP THEM
IN THEIR PRESENT
STATE!



BUT AS **ROBIN** PLEADS WITH THE ALIENS...

PLEASE--
YOU MUST
RETURN
THEM TO
NORMAL!

**GLOMP
GLOMP
GLOMP**

OUR SUPERIOR
IS COMING!
REMEMBER HOW
ANGRY HE WAS THE
LAST TIME WE
TAMPERED WITH
CREATURES FROM
ANOTHER PLANET?
WE MUST SEND
BACK THE BOY
BEFORE HE'S
SEEN!

THE NEXT
INSTANT,
ROBIN
IS
SPEEDING
BACK
TO
EARTH...



AND WHEN **ROBIN** LANDS...

THEY WERE IN
SUCH A HURRY, THEY
DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO
PUT ME UNDER THE
AMNESIA-RAY! NOW
I CAN EXPLAIN TO
BATMAN AND
SUPERMAN
AND STOP
THEIR FEUD!

OH, NO! AS LONG
AS THAT SWITCH
IS ON, THEY'RE
STILL UNDER THE
RAY'S INFLUENCE--
AND WILL HATE
EACH OTHER
NO MATTER
WHAT I TELL
THEM!



MEANWHILE, **BATMAN** AND **SUPERMAN** IMPATIENTLY AWAIT THEIR RETURN MATCH...

AND SHORTLY, THE HUSHED CROWD WATCHES THE GRIM SUPER-HEROES MOVE TOWARDS EACH OTHER...



SUDDENLY, **SUPERMAN** MAKES THE FIRST MOVE--HIS FIST FLASHES FORWARD--AND OPENS!

BATMAN--I WANT TO APOLOGIZE FOR MY RIDICULOUS BEHAVIOR! LET'S SHAKE AND BE FRIENDS!

I WANT TO APOLOGIZE, TOO, **SUPERMAN**--FOR MY FOOLISH CONDUCT!



OW! NOT SO HARD! THAT HURT!

GOSH, **BATMAN**, I'M SORRY! I GUESS YOUR SUPER-STRENGTH WAS ONLY TEMPORARY!



THE RAY DOESN'T AFFECT THEM! THAT MEANS THE **SUPERIOR** MUST'VE OVERHEARD THE ALIENS AND THREW THE SWITCH --AND JUST IN TIME, TOO! (PHEW!) NOW I CAN TELL **BATMAN** AND **SUPERMAN** WHAT HAPPENED...

AND SO A FRIENDSHIP IS RENEWED--AND A FEUD FINISHED--FOREVER!





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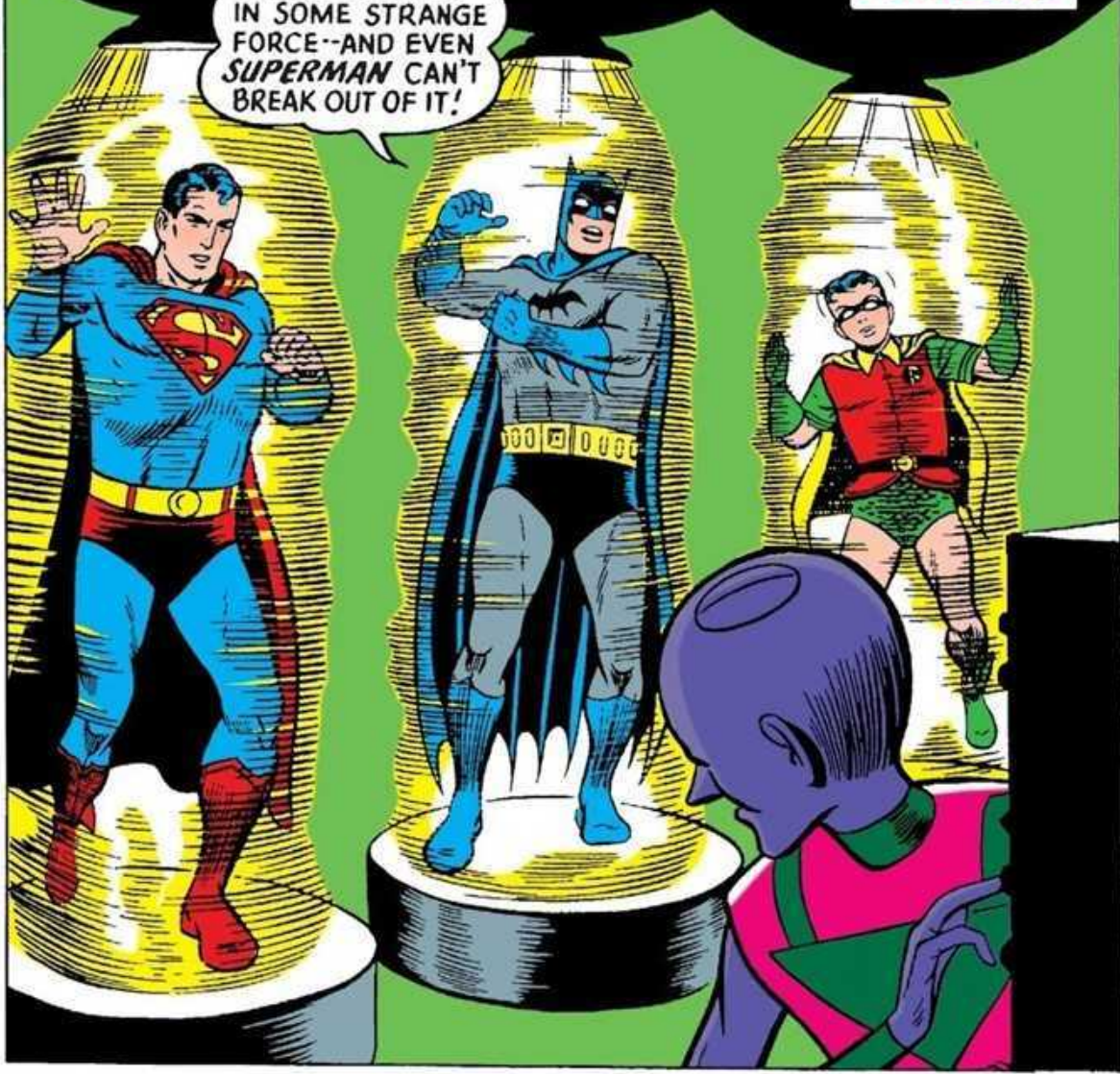


WORLD'S FINEST

COMICS

Featuring
**"THE
SUPER-
FOES
FROM
PLANET X!"**

WE'RE TRAPPED
IN SOME STRANGE
FORCE--AND EVEN
SUPERMAN CAN'T
BREAK OUT OF IT!



YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES

SUPERMAN
WHO'S A PAY OFF

and

BATMAN
AND
ROBIN

IN ONE
ADVENTURE
Together!

FROM OUT OF THE UNKNOWN, THEY CAME-- INCREDIBLE THINGS THAT MENACED THE EARTH! THEN THREE CHAMPIONS--**SUPERMAN, BATMAN AND ROBIN**--CAME TO CHALLENGE THEM--AND FOUND THEMSELVES FIGHTING FOR THEIR VERY LIVES, AS THEY OPPOSED...

THE
SUPER-FOES
FROM
PLANET X

HURRY ROBIN-- IF **SUPERMAN** FAILS TO STOP THE **STORM TOP** AND TIDAL WAVE, THEY'LL WIPE OUT THE MAINLAND!



HIGH
OVER
METROPOLIS,
SUPERMAN
BEGINS
HIS
DAILY
PATROL
WHEN
SUDDENLY...

GO TO METROPOLIS
BEACH! DANGER
THREATENS FROM
THE **SOLAR**
SPONGE!

WHAT'S THAT?
A VOICE OUT OF
THIN AIR!

AT EYE-BLURRING SPEED, **SUPERMAN**
REACHES THE BEACH WHERE HE FINDS...

BATMAN AND ROBIN!
DID THAT VOICE TELL YOU
TO COME HERE, TOO?

YES! SO YOU HEARD
IT, TOO! WHAT DOES
IT ALL MEAN?

ABRUPTLY, AS IF FROM NOWHERE, A FANTASTIC,
GLEAMING SHAPE APPEARS...

LOOK! THAT
MUST BE THE
SOLAR
SPONGE
WE WERE
WARNED
ABOUT! I'VE
NEVER SEEN
ANYTHING
LIKE IT
BEFORE!

WOW!
THE HEAT
IS TERRIFIC!
THAT **SPONGE**
IS TURNING
THE SAND
INTO MOLTEN
GLASS!

GREAT
SCOTT! IT'S
CONSUMING
THE LIFEGUARD
TOWER! IT
FEEDS ON
ANYTHING IN
ITS PATH!

AS THE CROWD PANICS, **ROBIN** IS PUSHED INTO
THE PATH OF THE MENACE...

HELP!

EEEE!

RUN!

RUN!

UHH!

INSTANTLY, **BATMAN** HURTTLES FORWARD,
TACKLING **ROBIN**...

GOOD WORK, **BATMAN!**
NOW I'LL TAKE CARE OF
THAT FIERY NUISANCE!



SUPER-STRENGTH HAS NO EFFECT ON IT! WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

THE VOICE CALLED IT A **SOLAR SPONGE!** THAT MUST MEAN IT GETS ITS INCREDIBLE ENERGY FROM THE **SUN!**

IF THAT THING IS A MINIATURE SUN, THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO DESTROY IT, **SUPERMAN--** BY TURNING IT INTO A **NOVA!**



THEN, AFTER POLISHING THE GLASS, HE STANDS IT UPRIGHT IN A STRATEGIC POSITION...

SWIFTLY, **SUPERMAN** BORROWS CONCRETE FROM A NEARBY CONSTRUCTION COMPANY AND BUILDS A MOULD...



NOW THAT THE MOLTEN GLASS HAS FLOWED INTO THE MOULD, I'LL COOL IT WITH MY SUPER-BREATH!



I'VE GOT TO LURE THE **SOLAR SPONGE** RIGHT INTO THE PATH OF MY SOLAR MIRROR! FIRST, I'LL NEED **BAIT!**

SUPERMAN STREAKS UP, UP-- INTO OUTER SPACE--UP TO THE EARTH'S SUN...



BRAVING THE SUN'S FIERCE INCANDESCENCE, THE **MAN OF STEEL** SCOOPS UP HANDFULS OF FIERY SOLAR MATTER...



THEN PLUNGING EARTHWARD, HE FLINGS THE FIERY BAIT AT THE AVID **SOLAR SPONGE**, LURING IT TOWARDS THE GIANT MIRROR'S CONCENTRATED ENERGY...

SUDDENLY, AG **SUPERMAN** PLANNED, THE **SOLAR SPONGE** FLARES UP AND BURSTS INTO A NOVA...

ALL THAT ENERGY IS MAKING IT GROW! RUN, **ROBIN-- RUN!**

AS IF IN REPLY, THE MYSTERIOUS VOICE IS HEARD AGAIN...

HURRY! GO TO **BARREN ISLAND!** YOU MUST STOP THE **STORM TOP** ON ITS PATH OF DESTRUCTION!

UP, UP-- AND AWAY!

THERE IT IS AGAIN-- WITH ANOTHER WARNING!

AND THEN-- THERE IS NOTHING! THAT THING IT ABSORBED SO MUCH ENERGY, IT EXPLODED! MUST HAVE COME FROM ANOTHER WORLD! BUT WHAT WORLD? AND WHAT ABOUT THAT VOICE?

THERE IT IS-- SPINNING ALONG LIKE A CYCLONE! WISH ME LUCK-- I'M GOING AFTER IT!

WHATEVER THE **STORM TOP** IS, IT CAN'T THREATEN LIVES! NO ONE LIVES ON **BARREN ISLAND** NOW. THE GOVERNMENT USES IT AS A RADIO RELAY STATION!

BUT AS SUPERMAN HURLS HIMSELF AT THE BIZARRE MENACE...

SUPERMAN--LOOK! THE STORM TOP'S STARTED A TIDAL WAVE, WHICH WILL OVERWHELM THE ISLAND!

UHH! ITS TERRIFIC CENTRIFUGAL FORCE FLUNG ME OFF! I CAN'T GET NEAR IT!

THE GOVERNMENT NEEDS THAT RELAY STATION! I'VE GOT TO SAVE IT!

EXERTING HIS INCREDIBLE STRENGTH, SUPERMAN WRENCHES THE ISLAND FROM THE PATH OF DESTRUCTION...

THEY'RE HEADING FOR THE MAINLAND--AND I CAN'T THINK OF A WAY TO HALT THEM!

THE BAT-PLANE HAS AN AUXILIARY GAS TANK! IF WE EMPTY IT, AND FILL IT WITH OIL FROM THAT OIL DRUM, WE MAY HAVE A CHANCE...

INSTANTS LATER, SUPERMAN HASTILY ERECTS A GIGANTIC STRUCTURE ON THE SHOALS...

GOOD THING THERE WERE ENOUGH TREES ON BARREN ISLAND FOR ME TO CONSTRUCT THIS RAMP! NOW IT'S UP TO BATMAN...

RACING AHEAD OF THE STORM TOP, BATMAN RELEASES THE TANK'S OIL AND...



IT'S ROLLING DOWN THE RAMP! LET'S HOPE MY TRICK WORKS!

ON WHIRLS THE STORM TOP AT SUCH AMAZING SPEED THAT IT SHOOTS UP THE OIL-SLICKED RAMP LIKE A RUNAWAY ROCKET...



THERE IT GOES-- SPINNING SO FAST, IT'LL SOAR UP INTO OUTER SPACE!



AS THE TRIO MEETS AGAIN...

GO AT ONCE TO THE WASTELAND NEAR COLOSSAL CAVERNS! THE CRAWLER IS ON THE LOOSE!

THAT VOICE AGAIN! WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR? LET'S GO!



SOON, THEY SCRUTINIZE THE DESERTED PRAIRIE FOR ANOTHER GIANT MENACE, BUT...

I DON'T SEE A THING!

WAIT! I HEAR SOMETHING-- A BUZZING SOUND! WHY-- IT'S COMING FROM THE ANTENNAE OF THAT ODD INSECT!



ABRUPTLY, THE INCREDIBLE OCCURS...

WE'RE SHRINKING! THAT INSECT MUST BE THE CRAWLER!



WHAT--?

WITHIN SECONDS, THE TRIO HAS BEEN REDUCED UNTIL MERE PEBBLES LOOM LIKE BOULDERS...



GREAT SCOTT! WE'RE ABOUT TWO INCHES HIGH NOW!

THE CRAWLER'S VIBRATIONS MUST ALTER THE GENES OF ITS VICTIMS! IT SHRINKS LIVING THINGS SMALL ENOUGH FOR IT TO PREY ON!

IF I CAN STOP THOSE VIBRATIONS, WE MAY BE RESTORED TO OUR ORIGINAL SIZE!



BUT AS SUPERMAN NEARS THE CREATURE...



SUPERMAN-- COME BACK! THE CLOSER YOU MOVE TO THE VIBRATIONS, THE SMALLER YOU GET! IF YOU GET ANY CLOSER, YOU'LL DISAPPEAR ALTOGETHER!

I'M SHRINKING AGAIN!

BUT AS THEY RETREAT, A NEW DANGER SWOOPS DOWN FROM ABOVE...



WE'VE GOT TO GET AWAY FROM THOSE VIBRATIONS--

LOOK OUT! THAT BIRD, DIVING AT US, THINKS WE'RE INSECTS!

SWIFTLY, BATMAN HEFTS AN OLD PENNY LIKE A DISC...



THAT'S DRIVING IT AWAY!





QUICK!
LET'S GET
INTO THAT
SHED!

MAYBE WE CAN FIGURE
OUT SOME PLAN OF ACTION!



THAT CIGAR BOX
SUGGESTS AN IDEA!
IT'S DANGEROUS--
BUT IT MAY WORK!
LISTEN TO THIS...



MINUTES
LATER...

THE CRAWLER SPOTTED
ME! HERE IT COMES!



TENSELY, SUPERMAN WAITS--AS THE
CREATURE CLAMBERS INTO THE BOX IN
PURSUIT...



INSTANTLY, BATMAN AND ROBIN SLAM
DOWN THE LID...

NOW THE
BOX IS
AIR-TIGHT,
ROBIN!



WITHIN, SUPERMAN
INHALES DEEPLY...

BY BREATHING IN ALL THE AIR,
I'LL CREATE A VACUUM BECAUSE
SOUND VIBRATIONS CAN'T TRAVEL
WHERE THERE IS NO AIR!

WHOOOSH

BEYOND REACH OF THE VIBRATIONS, **SUPERMAN** STARTS TO GROW. AS HE DOES SO, HE LEAPS FORWARD...

NOW, I'LL RENDER THE **CRAWLER** HARMLESS WITHOUT HARMING IT!



HEN, BURSTING OUT OF THE BOX...

BATMAN AND ROBIN HAVE ALREADY REGAINED THEIR NORMAL SIZE! NOW I'LL BOTTLE THE **CRAWLER**!



AS THE TRIO ENTERS THE MAMMOTH CAVERNS...

AS THE TRIO EMERGES INTO THE SUNLIGHT...

HELP! I'VE BEEN TAKEN PRISONER IN COLOSSAL CAVERNS! HELP!

THAT VOICE AGAIN! WHOEVER IT BELONGS TO HAS WARNED US OF DISASTER! NOW WE'VE GOT TO HELP HIM!



A SPACE SHIP! **SUPERMAN**, THOSE SUPER-FOES CAME FROM ANOTHER PLANET!

HELP!

LET'S RESCUE OUR FRIEND FROM THAT ROBOT, FIRST, THEN GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS MYSTERY!



SUDDENLY...

PUT ME DOWN NOW, J-47! THEY WALKED RIGHT INTO THE TRAP JUST AS I PLANNED!

HUH?





THEN, BATMAN HURLS HIS BATARANG...

...SO THAT IT HITS THE LEAD WITH THE IMPACT OF A TRIGGER HAMMERING A CARTRIDGE...

CRACK

AND, LIKE A BULLET, THE LEAD SPEEDS ACROSS THE ROOM--RIGHT AT THE SWITCH-BUTTON!

THUNK!

AS THE
FORCE-WALL
DISSOLVES...

GOOD THINKING
BATMAN! NOW--
LET'S CLEAR UP
THIS MYSTERY!

BUT BURSTING INTO THE ALIEN SPACE SHIP...

CONGRATULATIONS! I
KNEW YOU WOULDN'T
FAIL US!

WHAT? YOU IMPRISONED
US, AND NOW YOU'RE
PLEASED TO SEE
US FREE? WHY?

SUPERMAN, WE COME FROM A PLANET THAT
IS CENTURIES AHEAD OF YOURS IN SCIENTIFIC
ACHIEVEMENT! ON OUR WORLD, ALL OUR
WORK AND ALL OUR THINKING IS
DONE FOR US BY MACHINES--
AND THAT HAS BEEN OUR
DOWNFALL!

"BECAUSE MACHINES DO EVERYTHING FOR US, WE HAVE GROWN WEAK AND LAZY..."



DEAR, YOU LOOK SO TIRED!

I AM! I KNEW I SHOULDN'T HAVE WALKED THOSE THREE STREETS! FROM NOW ON, I'LL LET OUR MACHINE DO OUR SHOPPING!

"AS YEARS PASSED, MANY OF OUR MACHINES BROKE DOWN, BUT WE HAD FORGOTTEN HOW TO REPAIR THEM..."



GENTLEMEN, WE HAVE ONLY A FEW MACHINES LEFT. HOW CAN WE FIGHT OUR PLANET'S NATURAL ENEMIES?

THERE IS NO ONE ON OUR PLANET TO TEACH US TO FIGHT!



"SO WE TURNED TO YOUR PLANET--AND MADE OUR DECISION!"

ONCE ON EARTH, WE SHALL RELEASE FORCES SIMILAR TO ONES ON OUR PLANET AGAINST **SUPERMAN, BATMAN AND ROBIN**--THOSE BRAVE EARTHLINGS WE HAVE VIEWED THROUGH OUR ELECTRO-TELESCOPES!

BY OBSERVING THEIR ACTIONS THROUGH OUR VIDEO-SCREENS, WE SHALL LEARN HOW TO SURVIVE!

YES--BUT WE MUST RELEASE THESE **SUPER-FOES** IN DESERTED AREAS, SO NO EARTHLINGS WILL BE IN ANY DANGER!



LATER, AS THE GRATEFUL ALIENS BLAST OFF FOR THEIR HOME PLANET...



SO THAT'S WHY YOU PROJECTED YOUR TELEPATH WARNINGS TO US!

YES-- AND NOW WE SHALL TRAIN OUR MINDS AND BODIES LIKE **BATMAN AND ROBIN**-- AND WITH THE HELP OF OUR REMAINING ROBOTS WHO HAVE SUPER-STRENGTH LIKE YOURS, WE SHALL SURVIVE, THANKS TO YOU!

YOU KNOW, I CAN'T EVEN BE ANGRY WITH THEM FOR WHAT THEY DID TO US! THEY WERE DESPERATE!

YES--AND I'M GLAD WE WERE ABLE TO HELP THEM SURVIVE ON PLANET X!





OCT. NO. 97



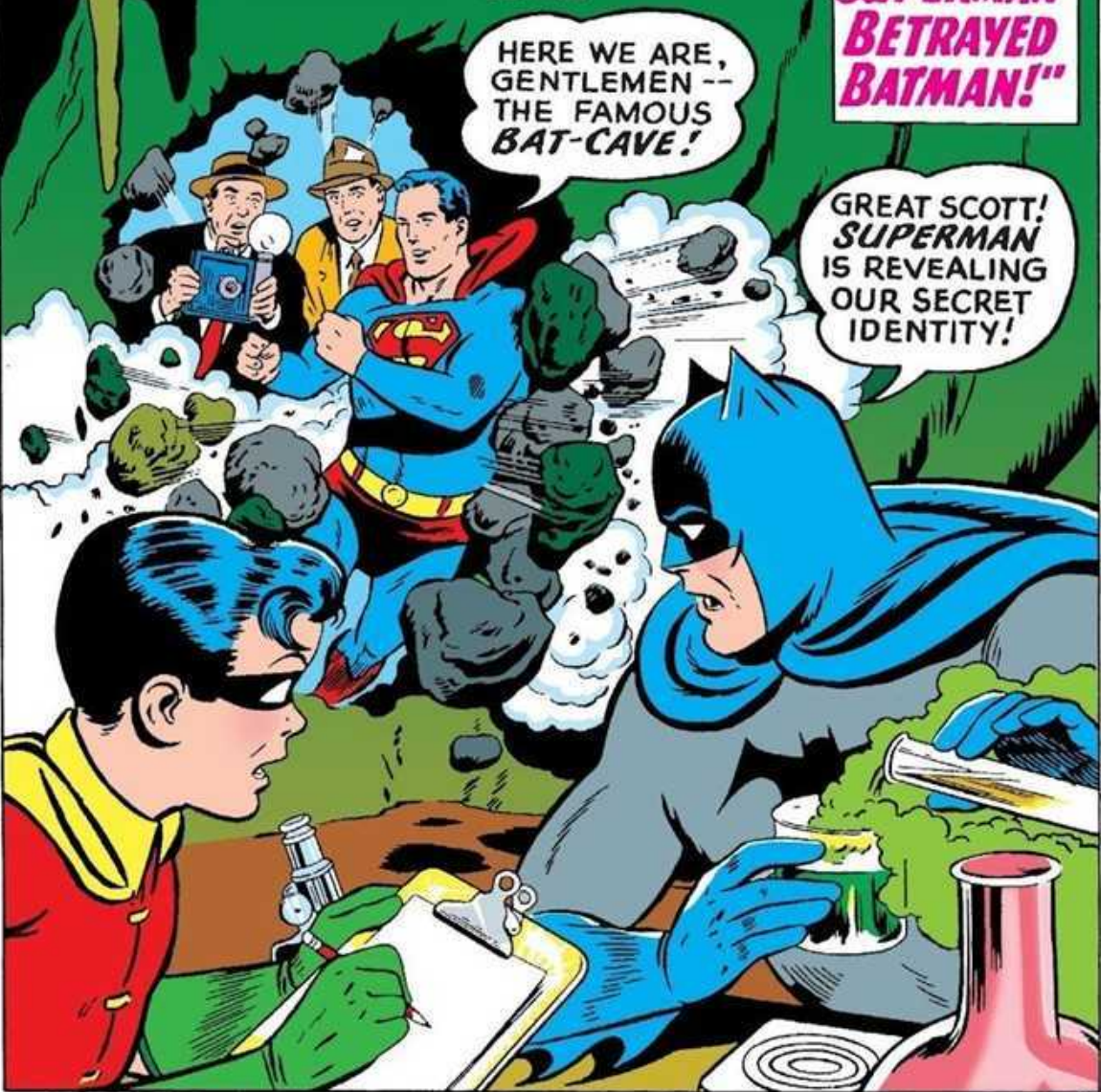
WORLD'S FINEST

COMICS

Featuring
**"The DAY
SUPERMAN
BETRAYED
BATMAN!"**

HERE WE ARE,
GENTLEMEN --
THE FAMOUS
BAT-CAVE!

GREAT SCOTT!
SUPERMAN
IS REVEALING
OUR SECRET
IDENTITY!



YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES

SUPERMAN
NO. 12 & PAY. OFF.

BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
"THE BOY WONDER"

and

IN ONE
ADVENTURE
Together!

LOOK!
SUPERMAN'S
ARRESTED
BATMAN!

SUPERMAN
HAD TO DO IT--
BATMAN'S A
WANTED
CRIMINAL
NOW!

I THOUGHT YOU WERE
MY FRIEND, **SUPERMAN**,
BUT YOU BETRAYED ME!

POLICE
HEADQUARTERS

IT WAS A NEW INVENTION-- A MACHINE THAT COULD
PREDICT THE FUTURE! BUT THE MOST TERRIBLE
EVENT IT EVER PREDICTED WAS THAT **BATMAN**
WOULD BE BRANDED A CRIMINAL-- AND THAT IT WOULD
BE **SUPERMAN** WHO WOULD HAVE TO ARREST HIS
BEST FRIEND! HOW THIS PREDICTION CAME TRUE
YOU WILL READ IN THE STRANGE CASE OF...

THE **DAY SUPERMAN
BETRAYED BATMAN**



OVER GOTHAM CITY, A GIANTIC METEOR LOOMS MENACINGLY, AND THEN...

THE METEOR APPROACHED AND EXPLODED HARMLESSLY-- JUST AS PROFESSOR MILO'S MACHINE PREDICTED!



AND IN THE AMERICAN DESERT, A MUSEUM'S PALEONTOLOGIST TEAM DISCOVERS...

A RARE DINOSAUR FOSSIL-- JUST WHERE PROFESSOR MILO'S PREDICTOR SAID IT WOULD BE!

SOON, NEWS REPORTERS MEET FOR ANOTHER DEMONSTRATION OF THE PROFESSOR'S INVENTION-- A MECHANICAL BRAIN THAT CAN PREDICT THE FUTURE...

AH! MISS LOIS LANE OF THE DAILY PLANET-- YOU WISH TO ASK THE PREDICTOR A QUESTION?

YES! WE ALL KNOW THAT A MYSTERY MAN WHO CALLS HIMSELF THE CONDOR HAS BECOME HEAD OF A LARGE BAND OF CRIMINALS...

RIGHT NOW, **SUPERMAN-- AND BATMAN** ARE SEPARATELY FOLLOWING LEADS TO THE CONDOR GANG! WILL THEY SUCCESSFULLY CAPTURE THE GANG?

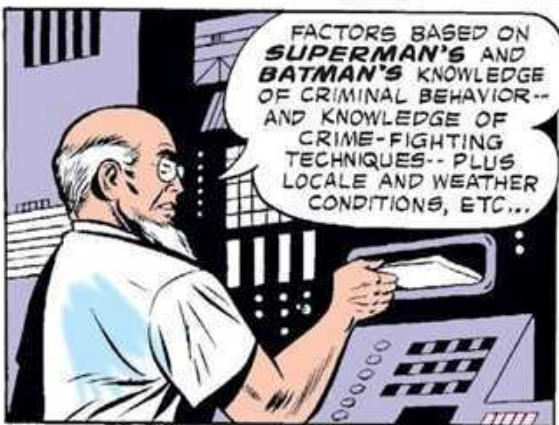
FIRST, I'LL HAVE TO FEED THE MACHINE CERTAIN FACTORS WHICH IT WILL TABULATE...



FACTORS BASED ON **SUPERMAN'S** AND **BATMAN'S** KNOWLEDGE OF CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR-- AND KNOWLEDGE OF CRIME-FIGHTING TECHNIQUES-- PLUS LOCALE AND WEATHER CONDITIONS, ETC...

AFTER ABSORBING THE DATA, THE PREDICTOR REVEALS ITS ANSWER TO THE PROFESSOR...

BATMAN WILL CAPTURE A SMALL SEGMENT OF THE CONDOR GANG WHEN LIGHTNING STRIKES! **SUPERMAN** WILL ALSO CAPTURE A PART OF THE GANG WHEN A TABLE SPINS!



WHEN THE REPORTERS LEAVE, THEY PONDER THE PREDICTOR'S CRYPTIC REPLY...

LOOK--
THUNDERCLOUDS!
LIGHTNING COULD
STRIKE TONIGHT!

COULD BE!
BUT WHAT ABOUT
"WHEN A TABLE
SPINS"? WHAT
COULD THAT
MEAN?

LATER, TWO CAPED FIGURES MOVE CATLIKE UP THE DOME OF A MOUNTAIN OBSERVATORY...

NOW LET'S CHECK THAT LEAD,
ROBIN-- AND SEE IF SOME
OF THE CONDOR GANG IS
USING THIS OLD
OBSERVATORY
AS A HIDEOUT...

EVEN AS THE GANGSTERS OPEN FIRE,
THE **DYNAMIC DUO** MAKES
A SPECTACULAR MOVE...

THEY
ARE!

**BATMAN
AND
ROBIN!**

YOU GUYS
BLIND OR
SOMETHING?

NOW,
ROBIN--
LET'S TAKE
THEM!

WHAT CAN
WE DO?
THEY'RE
HOPPIN'
AROUND
LIKE
MONKEYS!

SUDDENLY...

OOOPS-- I
SLIPPED!

UH-H...

QUICK--NOW'S
OUR CHANCE TO
GET OUT O'
HERE!



**AS THE CAR SKIDS OFF THE ROAD AND THEN
BRAKES TO A HALT, BATMAN AND
ROBIN SWIFTLY OVERTAKE THEIR DAZED
CAPTIVES...**

CAPTURED-- BECAUSE OF
LIGHTNING-- JUST LIKE
PROFESSOR MILO'S
MACHINE PREDICTED
IN THE NEWSPAPERS!



**SWIFTLY, THE ESCAPING BANDITS DRIVE OFF...
WHEN, WITHOUT WARNING, THERE IS A RUMBLE
OF THUNDER AND...**

LOOK
OUT!

CRACK



**LATER,
THAT DAY,
AT A
RAILROAD
YARD,
SUPERMAN
CLOSES
IN ON
ANOTHER
PART
OF THE
GANG...**

THEY'RE USING THAT
ABANDONED SHED
AS A HIDEOUT!



MAY
I COME
IN?

YIPE!
SUPERMAN!



SPLIT UP! THAT'S
OUR ONLY CHANCE
TO GET AWAY!



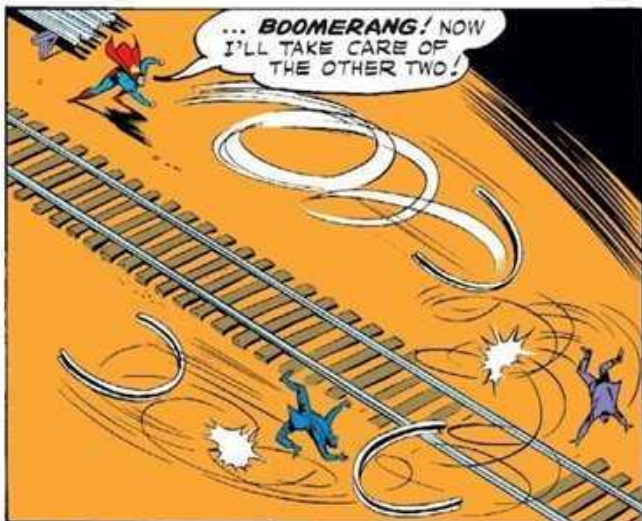
AS THE GANGSTERS FLEE IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS, **SUPERMAN** SWIFTLY SHAPES A LENGTH OF UNUSED STEEL RAIL WITH HIS BARE HANDS...

THIS SHOULD MAKE A PRETTY GOOD...

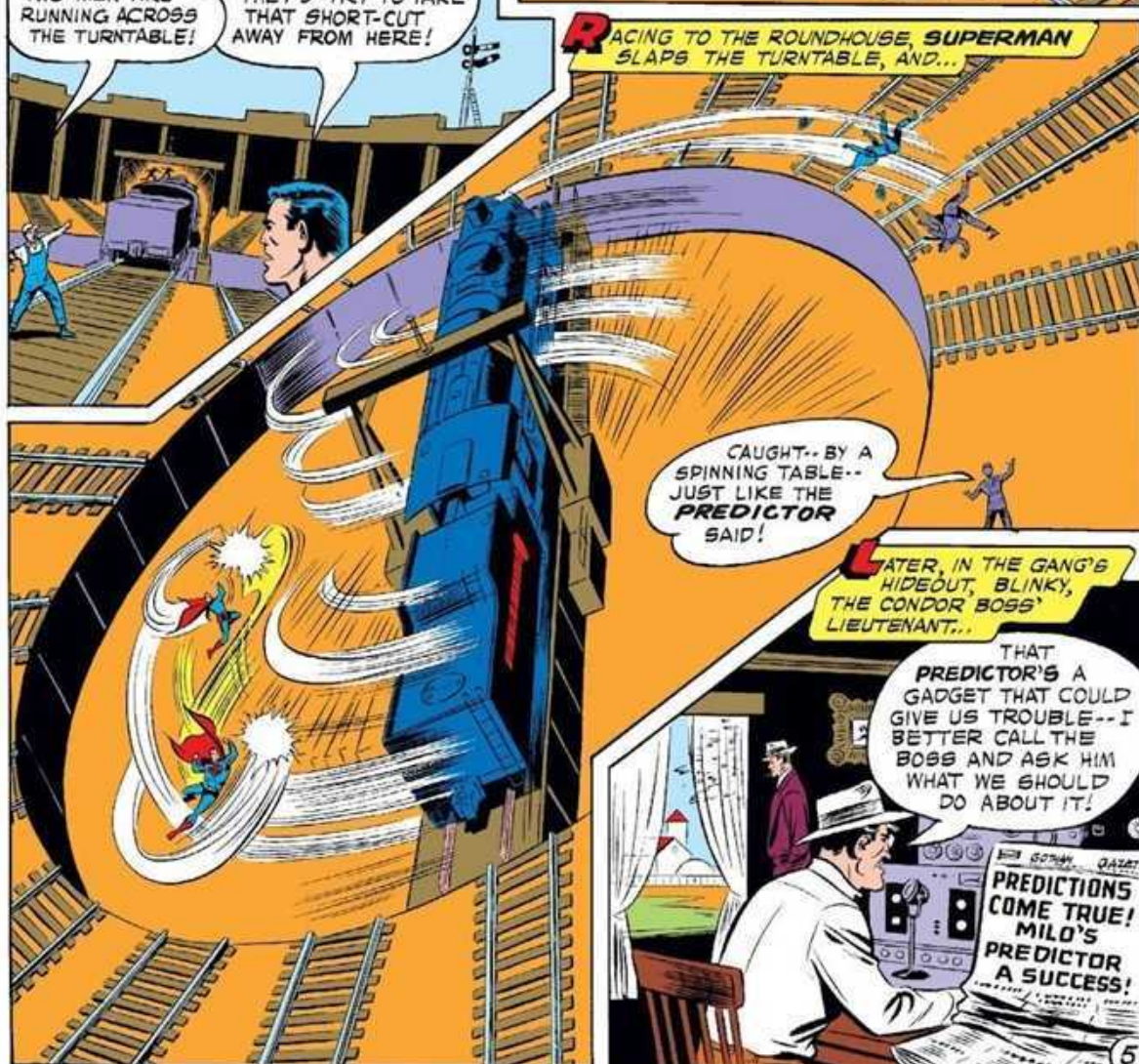


SUPERMAN, TWO MEN ARE RUNNING ACROSS THE TURNTABLE!

I EXPECTED THAT THEY'D TRY TO TAKE THAT SHORT-CUT AWAY FROM HERE!



RACING TO THE ROUNDHOUSE, **SUPERMAN** SLAPS THE TURNTABLE, AND...



LATER, IN THE GANG'S HIDEOUT, BLINKY, THE CONDOR BOSS' LIEUTENANT...

THAT **PREDICTOR'S** A GADGET THAT COULD GIVE US TROUBLE-- I BETTER CALL THE BOSS AND ASK HIM WHAT WE SHOULD DO ABOUT IT!



SOON AFTER, IN PROFESSOR MILO'S LABORATORY...

HOLD IT, PROFESSOR! THE CONDOR WANTS YOU AND THAT GADGET TO COME WITH US! WE GOT A TRUCK WAITIN' OUTSIDE!

WHAT...?

LATER, IN Blinky's Farmhouse Hideout...

THE CONDOR WANTS TO KNOW IF YOUR MACHINE CAN TELL US HOW TO GET **BATMAN** AND **SUPERMAN** TO STOP INVESTIGATING THE GANG!

THE MACHINE CAN DO IT -- IF I FEED IT CERTAIN FACTORS TO CREATE THE RIGHT SITUATION...

SOON, AFTER THE PREDICTOR GIVES THE ANSWER...

LOCK THE PROFESSOR IN THE CELLAR AND LET'S GET WORKING ON THE MACHINE'S PLAN! WHEN THE PLAN IS ALL SET, I'LL MAKE THE PHONE CALL TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

MUCH LATER, THE PLAN IS PUT INTO ACTION--AS POLICE RAID THE HIDEOUT OF ACE LOGAN, A WANTED BANK ROBBER...

OUR ANONYMOUS TIP CAME TOO LATE! LOGAN'S SKIPPED OUT!

LOGAN FORGOT SOMETHING -- A CAN OF FILM! IT COULD BE IMPORTANT! WE'D BETTER RUN IT OFF AT HEADQUARTERS!

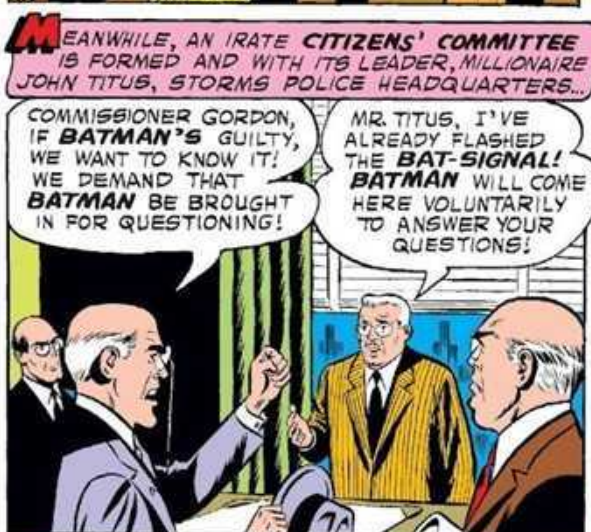
AFTERWARD, COMMISSIONER GORDON AND POLICE REPORTERS STARE UNBELIEVINGLY AT THE PROJECTED FILM...

BATMAN-- TAKING PAYOFF MONEY FROM LOGAN-- MONEY LOGAN STOLE FROM THE GOTHAM BANK!

THAT ROBBERY TOOK PLACE A FEW MONTHS AGO! **BATMAN** WAS ASSIGNED TO BRING LOGAN IN-- BUT HE SAID LOGAN ESCAPED!

NOW WE KNOW! **BATMAN** DIDN'T BRING IN LOGAN BECAUSE HE TOOK A BRIBE!

SURE! AND LOGAN HAD A HIDDEN CAMERA SET UP TO TAKE A PICTURE OF THE PAYOFF-- SO HE COULD BLACKMAIL **BATMAN** WITH IT IN CASE **BATMAN** EVER TRIED TO BRING HIM IN AGAIN! WHAT A STORY!



SOON AFTER, POLICE REPORTERS ARE CARRIED TO THE HEADLINE STORY OF THE YEAR...

I GUESS **SUPERMAN** HATES TO EXPOSE **BATMAN'S** SECRET IDENTITY THIS WAY-- BUT HE HAS NO CHOICE! THIS IS A PUBLIC MATTER, NOW THAT **BATMAN** HAS DEFIED THE LAW!



ALIGHTING AT A HILLSIDE, SUPERMAN STARTS BORING INTO THE GROUND...

JUST IN CASE HE TRIES TO ESCAPE, I'D BETTER TAKE HIM BY SURPRISE--SO I'LL MAKE A NEW TUNNEL INTO THE **BAT-CAVE!**



AS REPORTERS FOLLOW...

THE **BAT-CAVE** IS JUST BEHIND **HERE!**



THIS, GENTLEMEN-- IS THE **BAT-CAVE!**

SUPERMAN! HE'S EXPOSED OUR SECRET IDENTITIES!



I'M SORRY, **BATMAN**--BUT I'VE GOT TO BRING YOU IN!

AND I THOUGHT YOU WERE MY FRIEND! YOU BETRAYED ME!



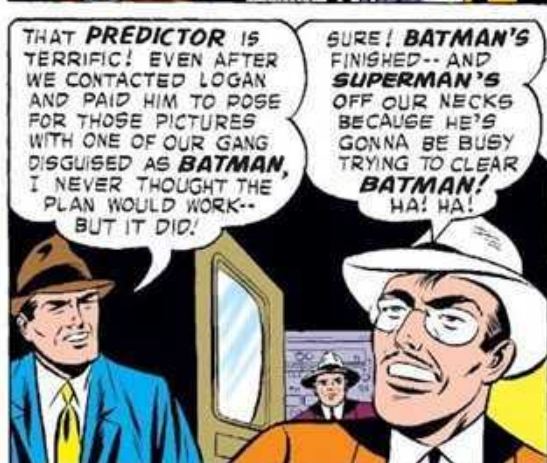
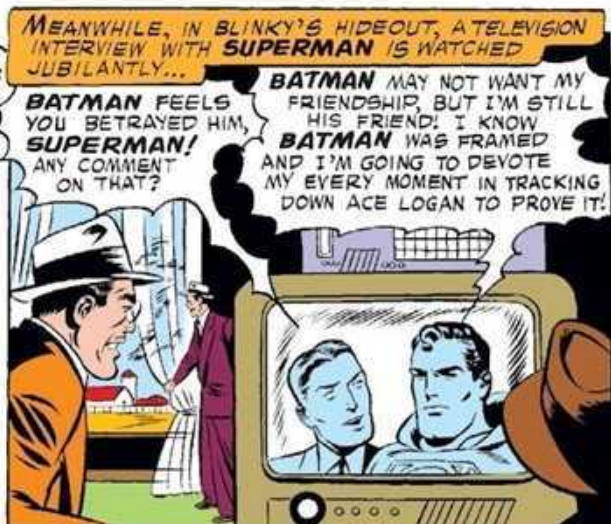
AND AS REPORTERS GO UP INTO THE MANSION BUILT ABOVE THE BAT-CAVE...

KNOW WHO THAT IS? THAT'S THE SPORTSMAN SCOTT FOREST AND HIS SON, BILLY!

NOW WE KNOW THE SECRET IDENTITIES OF **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN!**



WE KNOW THE TRUE IDENTITIES OF **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** ARE BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON! IS IT POSSIBLE THEY ALSO HAVE A THIRD IDENTITY NEVER KNOWN TILL NOW?



"IN ORDER TO DO THAT, **BATMAN** AND I WORKED OUT OUR FAKE PREDICTIONS..."

NOW THAT I'VE MADE THE FIRST "PREDICTION" COME TRUE, I'LL UNEARTH A FOSSIL AND PLANT IT WHERE THE MUSEUM TEAM CAN FIND IT...



NATURALLY, ONLY PRETENDED TO BUMP INTO **BATMAN** IN THE OBSERVATORY, SO YOUR GANG COULD SEEM TO 'ESCAPE'..."

CRACK

NOW THAT I'M CHARGED WITH ELECTRICITY-- I'LL BECOME A HUMAN LIGHTNING BOLT-- AND STOP THAT GETAWAY CAR AS "PREDICTED"!

"NATURALLY, POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON WAS IN ON OUR SCHEME, AS WAS SCOTT FOREST..."

LATER, AS WE ANTICIPATED, YOU ORDERED BLINKY TO BRING ME AND THE MACHINE TO HIS HIDEOUT, AND WHEN HE LOCKED ME IN THE CELLAR..."



NOW, WHILE BLINKY IS CARRYING OUT THE "PREDICTOR'S" PLAN, I'LL GET OUT AND BE READY TO "ARREST" **BATMAN**!

THANKS FOR ALLOWING ME TO BUILD THIS FAKE **BAT-CAVE** HERE!

IT'S I WHO SHOULD THANK YOU FOR GIVING ME THE HONOR OF BEING **BATMAN** EVEN FOR A LITTLE WHILE! BILLY AND I WILL STAY HIDDEN UNTIL YOUR PLAN SUCCEEDS!

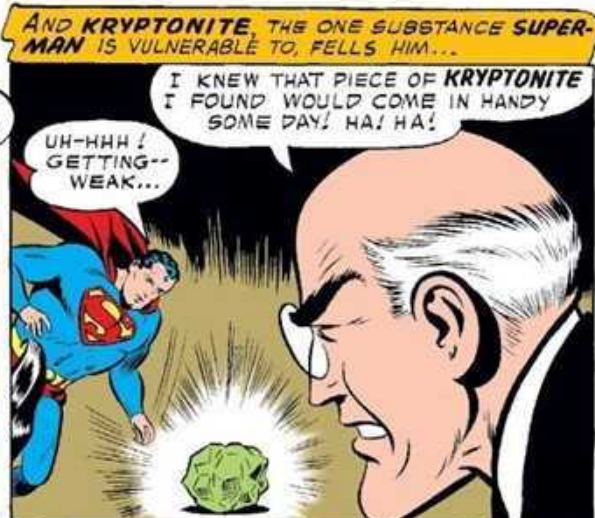


AFTER I "EXPOSED" **BATMAN**, YOU REACTED AS WE EXPECTED-- YOU HAD ME BROUGHT TO YOUR OWN HIDEOUT-- WHICH WAS JUST WHAT I WANTED YOU TO DO!



JOHN TITUS! OUR PLAN WORKED BETTER THAN I EXPECTED! YOU BELIEVED IN THE "PREDICTOR" SO MUCH, YOU EVEN GOT YOURSELF ON THE CITIZENS' COMMITTEE!





MEANWHILE, THE **CONDOR** LEAPS TO HIS SPEEDBOAT AND...

WHILE THOSE FOOLS ARE KEEPING THOSE LAWYERS BUSY, I'LL GET AWAY AND BUILD UP ANOTHER GANG IN ANOTHER CITY!



SUDDENLY, THE SPEEDBOAT PUTS ON SPEED--AND FOR A VERY GOOD REASON!

SUPERMAN!



ON RACES THE SPEEDBOAT-- RIGHT UP ONTO DRY LAND-- AND THROUGH THE STREETS...



YOU CAN RELAX NOW, TITUS--THIS IS AS FAR AS YOU GO!

LATER, WHEN THE ENTIRE **CONDOR** GANG IS IMPRISONED...

WELL, WE DID A LOT OF ELABORATE PLANNING, BUT WE HAD TO DO IT TO KEEP THE **CONDOR** GANG FROM SPREADING ACROSS THE UNITED STATES!

AND I PREDICT THE **CONDOR** WILL STAY CAGED, FOR A LONG TIME TO COME!



THE END

**WORLD'S
FINEST
COMICS**



DEC. NO. 98

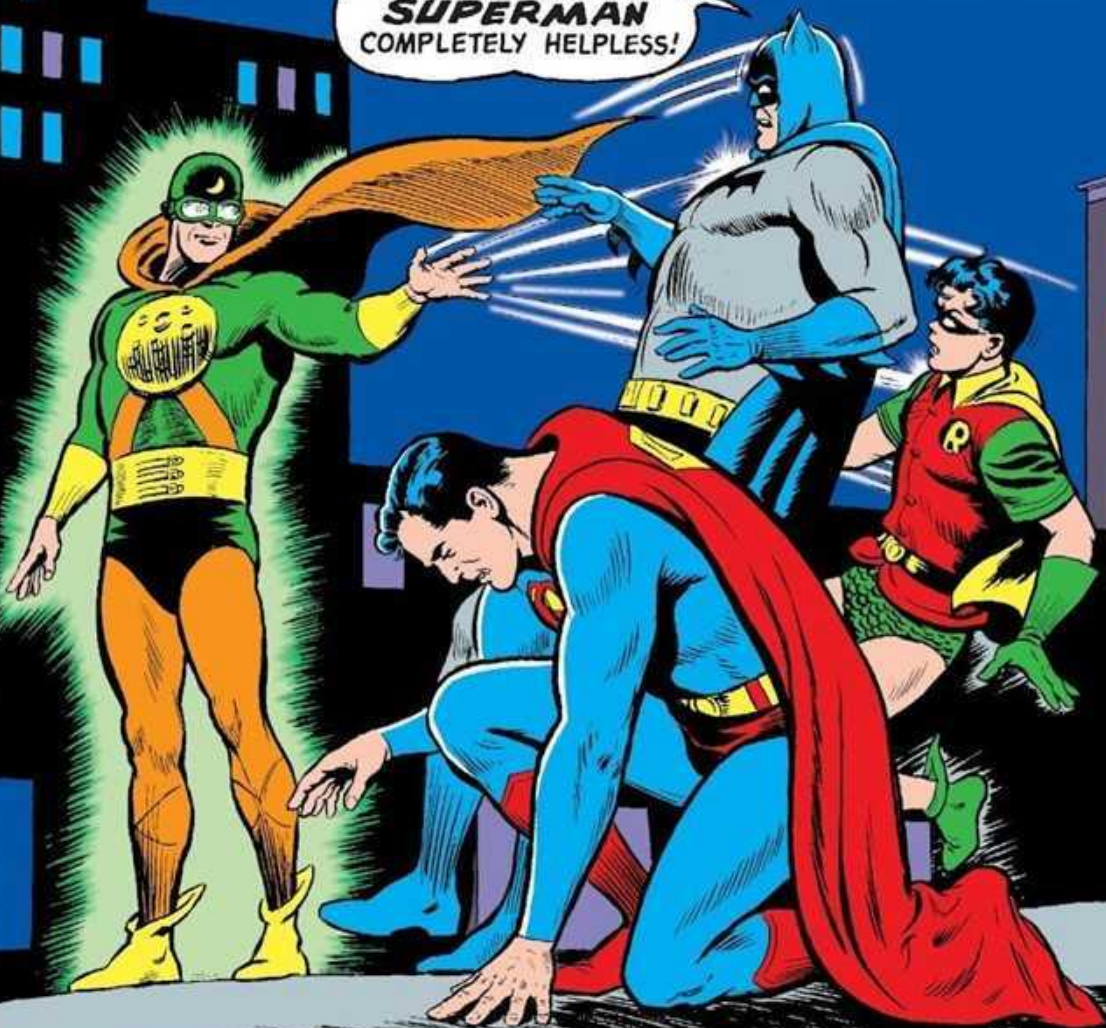


WORLD'S FINEST

COMICS

"MENACE
of the
**MOON-
MAN!**"

THE MOON-MAN'S
MAGNETIC FORCE IS
REPELLING US--
AND HE'S MADE
SUPERMAN
COMPLETELY HELPLESS!



YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES

SUPERMAN

and

BATMAN
AND
ROBIN

IN ONE
ADVENTURE
Together!

HE CALLED HIMSELF THE MOONMAN BECAUSE HE ONLY STRUCK UNDER THE LIGHT OF THE MOON! AND WHEN DAWN CAME, THE MOONMAN VANISHED, AS IF SHUNNING EXPOSURE TO THE SUN'S GLARING EYE! WHERE HE CAME FROM-- WHERE HE GOT HIS FANTASTIC POWERS, NO ONE KNEW-- FOR, LIKE THE MOON, HE WAS AN UNSOLVED MYSTERY!

EVEN THE COMBINED FORCES OF THE GREAT CRIME-FIGHTING TRIO-- SUPERMAN, BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER-- SEEMED HELPLESS AGAINST...

THE MENACE OF THE MOONMAN!



ON A MOONLIT NIGHT, THE BATMOBILE
DRAWS UP TO A SECLUDED SPOT...

HERE'S PILOT ROGERS,
GENERAL! WE DROVE
HIM ALL THE WAY
THROUGH BACK ROADS
SO NO ONE COULD
SEE HIM!

THANK YOU, **BATMAN!**
THIS SPACE FLIGHT
MUST BE KEPT
SECRET UNTIL
WE'VE COMPLETED
ALL OUR TESTS!

ROGERS, YOU WILL BE
CARRIED IN A ROCKET
THAT **SUPERMAN**
WILL HURL TOWARDS
THE MOON, THEN YOU
WILL USE YOUR FULL
FUEL TANKS TO BREAK
OUT OF ITS ORBIT AND
RETURN TO EARTH!

I'D MAKE THE TRIP
MYSELF, BUT THIS
HAS TO BE A TEST
OF MAN'S ENDURANCE
IN SPACE FLIGHT!



SOON AFTER, SUMMONING UP HIS
INCREDIBLE STRENGTH, **SUPERMAN**
HURLS THE FIRST MANNED ROCKET
INTO TRACKLESS SPACE!

AS THE ROCKET JOURNEYS ON,
SUPERMAN'S TELESCOPIC VISION
SIGHS ANOTHER SPACE TRAVELER...

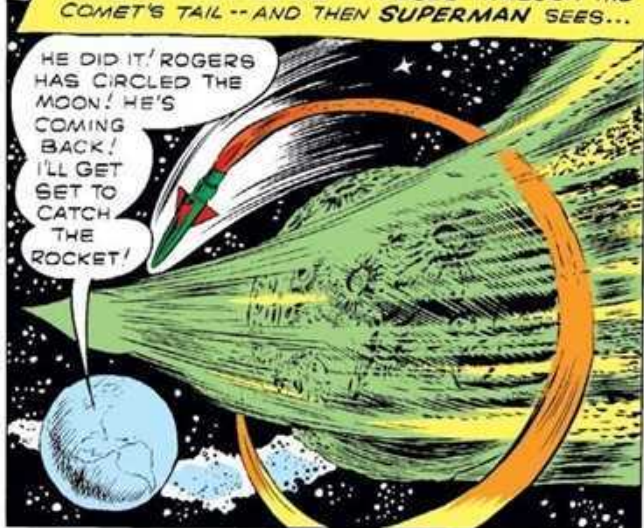


A GREAT GREEN COMET IS
APPROACHING THE MOON! I
HOPE IT DOESN'T AFFECT
ROGERS AS HE ORBITS
AROUND THE MOON!

AFTERWARD, THE MOON IS BATHED IN AN EERIE
GREEN RADIANCE AS IT PASSES THROUGH THE
COMET'S TAIL -- AND THEN **SUPERMAN** SEES...

HE DID IT! ROGERS
HAS CIRCLED THE
MOON! HE'S
COMING
BACK! I'LL GET
SET TO
CATCH
THE
ROCKET!

TIME PASSES AND WHEN ROGERS
RETURNS...



HI!

GREAT WORK, ROGERS!
NOW WE'LL TAKE YOU
TO THE LAB TO RUN
SOME TESTS ON YOU
AND THEN LET YOU
GO HOME FOR A
WELL-DESERVED
REST!

THAT NIGHT, **SUPERMAN**, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** ARE HONORED GUESTS AT THE OPENING OF AN OUTDOOR EXHIBIT OF HISTORIC VEHICLES OF THE PAST...

PRETTY ANCIENT STUFF COMPARED TO ROCKETS, EH, **SUPERMAN**? SAY, WHAT'S THAT **SILVER** CHARIOT THERE?

ACCORDING TO LEGEND, JUST AS APOLLO DROVE THE GOLDEN SUN-CHARIOT ACROSS THE SKY, HIS SISTER, DIANA, DROVE THE SILVER MOON-CHARIOT AT NIGHT! THAT CHARIOT IS ACTUAL SILVER, DONATED BY A FOLKLORE SOCIETY!



SUDDENLY, A BIZARRE FIGURE APPEARS AND LOOMS AGAINST THE MOON...

BUT AS THE TRIO RUSHES THE GLOWING FIGURE...



THE CHARIOT OF THE MOON-GODDESS SHALL BE MINE! ANYTHING OF THE MOON IS MINE-- FOR I AM **THE MOONMAN**! HA! HA!

UH-OH! ANOTHER CHEAP CROOK TRYING TO MAKE A NAME FOR HIMSELF! WE'LL STOP HIS CRIME CAREER BEFORE IT EVEN GETS STARTED!



SUPERMAN, WHAT'S WRONG?

DON'T KNOW-- SUDDENLY FEEL SO WEAK --I-- I CAN HARDLY STAND...

HA! HA!

SUDDENLY, THE **MOONMAN** RAISES HIS RIGHT HAND-- AND AN EERIE FORCE CRACKLES FROM HIS FINGERTIPS!

LEAPING INTO THE MOON-CHARIOT, THE **MOONMAN** POINTS HIS LEFT HAND AT THE GROUND, AND THE INCREDIBLE HAPPENS!



HA! HA! MY **MAGNETIC** FORCE PULLED THAT OLD FLIVVER RIGHT INTO THEM!



NOW, WITH THE HAND THAT REVERSES THE MAGNETIC FIELD, I'LL SIMPLY **REPEL** THE EARTH'S GRAVITY!

GREAT SCOTT! HE'S FLYING!

DESPERATELY, BATMAN LEAPS, HANDS OUTSTRETCHED...



AS THE MOON-CHARIOT SOARS HIGHER, BATMAN HAULS HIMSELF ABOARD...



BUT THE MOONMAN RAISES HIS LEFT HAND, AND THE MAGNETIC FORCE SLAMS BATMAN WITH TERRIBLE IMPACT!

EVEN AS BATMAN PLUMMETS, HIS TRAINED BODY AND MIND INSTANTLY REACT TO THE DANGER...

YOU FIGHT WELL, BATMAN, BUT THIS TIME IT'S NOT ENOUGH!



LAKE BELOW-- I'LL HAVE TO CATCH SOME AIR IN MY CAPE-- TO BREAK MY SPEED!



LATER, WHEN SUPERMAN HAS RECOVERED FROM THE STRANGE FORCE...

STRANGE-- BUT AS SOON AS YOU GOT CLOSE TO HIM, YOU WERE WEAKENED, JUST AS IF YOU'D GOTTEN CLOSE TO KRYPTONITE!

THE WHOLE THING'S A MYSTERY! HOW DID THAT MOONMAN GET HIS ALIEN POWERS? WHO IS HE?

THEN WITH SUPERS TIMING, AT THE RIGHT MOMENT, BATMAN STRAIGHTENS HIS BODY-- AND CLEAVES THE WATER NEATLY!



NEXT MORNING, IN HIS HOME, PILOT ROGERS READS THE NEWS STORY OF THE STRANGE CRIMINAL...

I WONDER WHO HE IS? WOULDN'T IT BE STRANGE IF, COINCIDENTALLY, A MOONMAN APPEARED JUST WHEN I MADE MY TRIP TO THE MOON?

DAILY PLANET
MOONMAN STEALS SILVER CHARIOT
FRESHLY
ARTIST'S SKETCH OF BIZARRE CRIMINAL

LATER, AS ROGERS ENTERS HIS GARAGE, HIS EYES OPEN WIDE IN AMAZEMENT...

GOOD GRIEF! IT'S THE SILVER CHARIOT-- AND THAT'S THE MOONMAN'S COSTUME! BUT HOW DID THEY GET IN HERE? I'D BETTER NOTIFY THE POLICE!

LATER, WHEN THE TRIO APPEARS...

THE MOONMAN MUST HAVE FIGURED YOU WERE OUT SO HE HID THEM HERE TEMPORARILY, INTENDING TO RETURN FOR THEM!

AND WHEN HE RETURNS, WE'LL BE HIDING HERE--WAITING TO GRAB HIM!

THROUGHOUT THE DAY, THE MANHUNTERS PATIENTLY AWAIT THE MOONMAN'S RETURN, THEN AS NIGHT FALLS, A SHAFT OF MOONLIGHT BATHES ROGERS' FACE...

THAT MOONLIGHT-- MAKES ME FEEL FUNNY--

LOOK--HIS FACE-- IT'S CHANGING-- AND HE'S STARTING TO GLOW!

INCREDIBLY, ROGERS UNDERGOES A FANTASTIC TRANSFORMATION...

ROGERS, WHAT'S-- OH-- I'M GETTING WEAK AGAIN-- LIKE THE LAST TIME!

ROGERS-- HE'S THE MOONMAN!

HA!
HA!
HA!

BEFORE BATMAN AND ROBIN CAN ACT, ROGERS POINTS HIS RIGHT HAND AT SOME TOOLS HANGING ON THE GARAGE WALL, AND...

HA! HA! THIS WILL HOLD YOU WHILE I PUT ON MY COSTUME AGAIN SO THAT MOONMAN CAN COMMIT ANOTHER MOON-CRIME!



NO USE-- I CAN'T STOP HIM NOW-- I'M TOO WEAK...

LATER, WHEN THE CRIME-FIGHTERS RECOVER...

DID YOU SEE HIS FACE WHEN MOONLIGHT TOUCHED IT? HE BECAME A DIFFERENT PERSON! AND THAT GREEN GLOW...

GREEN! THAT COMET GLOWED GREEN! THAT'S IT! THE GLOW OF THAT STRANGE COMET, PLUS THE MOON'S LIGHT, MUST HAVE HAD A CHEMICAL REACTION THAT AFFECTED ROGERS--



--WHICH MAKES HIM A CRIMINAL ONLY AT NIGHT, WHEN MOONLIGHT TOUCHES HIM! DURING THE DAY, HE'S NORMAL AND DOESN'T REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED THE NIGHT BEFORE!

AND THE REASON I GET WEAK WHEN I'M CLOSE TO ROGERS IS THAT THE COMET MUST HAVE HAD SOME KRYPTONITE DUST IN IT! WE MUST STOP HIM! HE'S PULLING ANOTHER MOON-CRIME SOMEWHERE --BUT WHERE DID HE GO?

LATER, IN A MUSEUM'S INDIA ROOM, THE MOONMAN GLOATS OVER HIS LATEST TRIUMPH WHEN...

I HAD A HUNCH YOU'D BE AFTER THE PRECIOUS MOON-STONE IN THE FOREHEAD OF THAT IDOL!



AGAIN, THE MOONMAN'S STRANGE FORCE REPELS GRAVITY, AND HE FLASHES OUT INTO THE NIGHT...

CAREFUL, SUPERMAN-- DON'T GET TOO CLOSE TO HIM!

WHY DO YOU THINK I BORROWED YOUR SILKEN LASSO?

THIS TIME I'M GOING TO CORRAL HIM FROM A DISTANCE!



BUT, AS THEY SOAR OVER THE HARBOR...

LIKE THE MOON, I CAN ALSO CONTROL THE TIDE!

GREAT SCOTT! THE MAGNETIC PULL HAS CREATED A TIDAL WAVE!



SWIFTLY, SUPERMAN WHIRLS ABOVE THE MOUNTAINOUS WAVE AT SUPER-SPEED...

HIGHER, HIGHER RISES THE COLUMN OF WATER, FOLLOWING SUPERMAN'S WHIRLING FIGURE...

I'VE GOT TO CREATE A VACUUM--SO THAT THE WATER WILL RUSH UP TO FILL THE VOID...

NOW I'LL TAKE THIS WATER SPOUT FAR OUT TO SEA, THEN LET IT DROP WHERE IT'LL DO NO HARM!

MEANWHILE, HAVING ESCAPED, THE MOONMAN SECRETS HIMSELF INSIDE AN EMPTY SHED ON THE WATERFRONT...

WELL, I GOT WHAT I WENT OUT FOR! NOW I CAN RELAX-- GET A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP!

NEXT MORNING, AS SUNLIGHT STREAMS OVER HIM, ROGERS AWAKENS WITH NO RECOLLECTION OF THE PREVIOUS NIGHT...

WHERE AM I? WHERE DID I GET THIS MOONSTONE? AND THIS COSTUME-- THE MOONMAN'S COSTUME! WHY AM I WEARING IT?

IT WAS I-- I ALL THE TIME! I'VE GOT TO GIVE MYSELF UP! I'VE GOT TO TELL THE POLICE TO LOCK ME UP WHERE MOONLIGHT CAN'T REACH ME-- SO I'LL NEVER TURN CRIMINAL AGAIN!

SUDDENLY, THE VOICES OF TWO PASSING DOCK WORKERS DRIFT TO HIM...

DID YOU SEE THE PAPER? THIS MOONMAN TURNED OUT TO BE A GUY NAMED ROGERS-- A KIND OF JEKYLL-HYDE!

YEAH! HE'S OKAY DURING THE DAY, BUT WHEN THE MOON COMES OUT, HE GOES BAD!

OHH-- NO-- NO...

THE BATMOBILE!
BATMAN AND ROBIN
ARE LOOKING FOR
ME! BATMAN!
I'M HERE!

BATMAN--LOOK!
IT'S ROGERS!
HE'S GIVING
HIMSELF UP!

BUT TWO CROOKS ALSO SIGHT ROGERS IN
HIS MOONMAN GARB...

HELP ME, BATMAN!
LOCK ME UP! I DON'T
WANT TO STEAL
AGAIN!

IT'S ROGERS!
IF WE CAN GRAB HIM
AND HOLD HIM UNTIL
NIGHTFALL, HE COULD
LEAD OUR GANG TO
SOME BIG JOBS!

ROBIN--
DOWN!

BLAM!

THAT'LL HOLD 'EM
OFF LONG ENOUGH
FOR US TO GET
AWAY WITH
ROGERS!

BLAM!

AS THE CAPTORS AND THEIR PRIZE
SPEED AWAY IN A WAITING MOTOR
LAUNCH...

I'LL CALL THE
HARBOR PATROL,
BUT I DOUBT IF
THEY'LL FIND HIM!
THAT GANG HAS A
HUNDRED HIDEOUTS!

THEY'RE GOING TO USE
ROGERS WHEN HE
BECOMES MOONMAN!
WE'VE GOT TO BE READY
FOR ANYTHING NOW!

LATER, ATOP A DESERTED LIGHTHOUSE...

NOW THE
MOONLIGHT
WILL PLAY
RIGHT ON
HIS FACE!

NO--DON'T!
LET ME GO!
DON'T DO THIS TO
ME! I DON'T WANT
TO BE A CRIMINAL
AGAIN!

THAT NIGHT, ONCE AGAIN, ROGERS SUCCEUMBS
TO THE INSIDIOUS EFFECT OF THE MOON-
LIGHT...

WHO ARE YOU?
WHAT AM I
DOING HERE?

WE JUST FOUND YOU! BATMAN
MUST HAVE TIED YOU UP UNTIL
THE HARBOR POLICE GET HERE!
BUT WE'RE YOUR PALS--THAT'S
WHY WE'RE FREEING
YOU! WE WANT TO JOIN
UP WITH YOU!

MEANWHILE...

ROBIN, ACCORDING TO THIS ITEM, THE NEW MOON-ROOM AT THE SCIENCE MUSEUM OPENS TOMORROW MORNING! THAT POSES A MOON-CRIME THAT MOONMAN CAN'T RESIST-- SO HE'LL STRIKE TONIGHT!

WE'LL LEAVE WORD FOR SUPERMAN TO MEET US THERE WHEN HE RETURNS FROM AN EMERGENCY RESCUE JOB!

THAT NIGHT, IN THE MOON-ROOM DISPLAYING THE GIANT MODEL THAT SHOWS THE MOON WILL BE MINED IN THE FUTURE...

MOONMAN, I STILL CAN'T GET OVER HOW YOU KNOCKED OUT THE GUARDS WITH YOUR MAGNETIC FORCE!

STOP BABBLING! LET'S CLIMB THAT "MOON" AND START UNLOADING THAT GOLD AND SILVER FROM THOSE MINE CARTS!

BEFORE THE MOON-MAN CAN USE HIS MAGNETIC FORCE, BATMAN ACTS!

AS THE THUGS SCALE THE MODEL, SUDDENLY...

ONE PUNCH FROM THE MOON-- AND THEY SEE STARS!

BATMAN AND ROBIN!

THEN, CLAMBERING OVER THE CRATER RINGS, THE DYNAMIC DUO CLOSES IN ON THE REMAINING PAIR...

MEANWHILE, AS THE DAZED MOONMAN LOOKS UP, HE SEES...

SUPERMAN!

HE WON'T RISK GETTING TOO CLOSE TO ME, SO HE'S PROBABLY GOT A PLAN TO CAPTURE ME FROM A DISTANCE! BUT I'LL OUTWIT HIM!

INSTANTLY THE MOONMAN EMITS SUCH A CONCENTRATION OF MAGNETIC FORCE THAT THE "MOON" IS SENT CRASHING THROUGH THE WALL...

ROBIN!
HANG ON!

YIIIIIIII!

WHOOSH!

AT EYE-BLURRING SPEED, SUPERMAN STREAKS IN PURSUIT...

I CAN'T GO AFTER THE MOONMAN NOW! I HAVE TO STOP THAT "MOON" BECAUSE THEY'RE ALL IN DANGER!

WHEW! I'VE STOPPED IT-- BUT NOT THE MOONMAN WHO PROBABLY FLED!

NEXT MORNING, ROGERS AWAKENS FROM HIDING IN AN EMPTY STORE ADJOINING A RADIO REPAIR SHOP...

...AND NOW THE LATEST NEWS! LAST NIGHT, BATMAN AND ROBIN ALMOST MET DEATH AT THE HANDS OF THE MOONMAN...

OH, NO--NO! THEY'RE MY FRIENDS-- AND I ALMOST KILLED THEM! WHAT CAN I DO...?

THAT NIGHT AT THE LIGHTHOUSE HIDEOUT...

LISTEN, I'LL NEED THE **WHOLE GANG** FOR A JOB! YOU KNOW WHERE TO CONTACT THEM, SO TELL THEM TO MEET ME AT GOTHAM AIRPORT! WE'RE GOING TO HIJACK A BLIMP CARRYING THE MOST VALUABLE CARGO IN THE WORLD!

THAT REALLY *IS* A BIG JOB! OKAY-- WE'LL SEE YOU THERE!

LATER, THE THUGS EMERGE FROM THEIR HIDEOUTS TO GATHER AT THE AIRPORT...

WHAT'S THAT?

IT'S ONLY A BLIMP, FIXED UP LIKE A SPACE PLATFORM TO ADVERTISE A NEW MOVIE!

TRUE--BUT IT IS CARRYING THE MOST VALUABLE CARGO IN THE WORLD! **WATCH!**

CRIME ON THE SPACE PLATFORM

MY MAGNETIC FORCE WILL BRING IT DOWN AND YOU'LL SEE THE CARGO FOR YOURSELVES!

WOW! HERE IT COMES!

THE MOST VALUABLE CARGO IN THE WORLD--**BATMAN, ROBIN--AND SUPERMAN!**

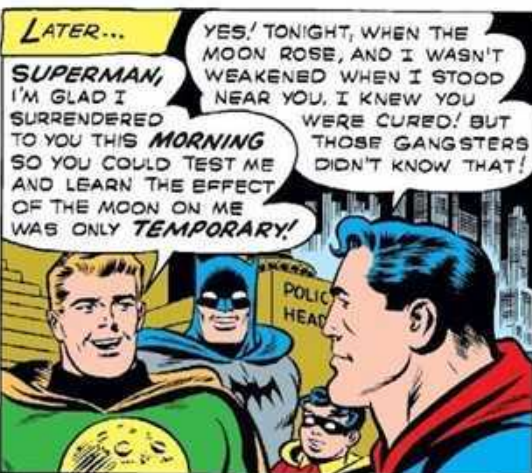
HUH?

MOONMAN-- YOU GONE CRAZY? QUICK--USE YOUR FORCE! KNOCK 'EM OUT!

VERY WELL! I RAISE MY LEFT HAND LIKE THIS...

...BUT THE ONLY FORCE I'VE GOT NOW IS IN A LEFT HOOK!

SPACE TRAVEL IS HERE--AND YOU'RE FLYING!



WORLD'S
FINEST
COMICS



FEB. NO. 99



WORLD'S FINEST

COMICS

Featuring
**"BATMAN'S
SUPER-
SPENDING
SPREE!"**



HURRY UP,
SUPERMAN!
BATMAN'S IN
DANGER AGAIN!

IF *BATMAN*
HADN'T BOUGHT THAT
CRAZY INVENTION, HE
WOULDN'T BE IN
THIS MESS!

YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES

SUPERMAN *and* BATMAN AND ROBIN

*In one adventure
TOGETHER!*

BUT, BATMAN--
IF I PUT THIS SOLID-
SILVER ASTEROID ON
YOUR PROPERTY, YOU'LL
REGAIN THE MONEY YOU
PAID FOR THIS
WORTHLESS LAND!

I DON'T
NEED YOUR HELP,
SUPERMAN! THE
WAY I SPEND MY
MILLION DOLLARS IS
MY BUSINESS!

WHERE DID THE MILLION DOLLARS COME FROM? AND WHY DID **BATMAN**, ONCE HE POSSESSED ALL THIS CASH, PROCEED TO SPEND IT WILDLY, FOOLISHLY, AS IF HE WERE **TRYING** TO LOSE EVERY CENT OF IT? EVEN HIS TWO CLOSEST FRIENDS, **ROBIN** AND **SUPERMAN**, FOUND THEMSELVES UTTERLY BAFFLED BY...

BATMAN'S SUPER-SPENDING SPREE!

ONE DAY, AS **ROBIN** WORKS
IN THE **BAT-CAVE**...

HI, **BATMAN**...
WHAT'S IN
THE
SATCHEL?

A
MILLION
DOLLARS!

A M-MILLION DOLLARS?...
IN CASH? BUT-- WHAT
ARE YOU GOING TO
DO WITH IT?

SPEND
IT!

SPEND IT?
WHAT'S **BATMAN**
TALKING ABOUT?
HE MUST BE
JOKING!

BUT FAR FROM A JOKE, A
STARTLING AD APPEARS IN
GOTHAM CITY'S NEWSPAPERS,
SOME HOURS LATER...

BATMAN WISHES TO
INVEST
\$1,000,000
IN BUSINESSES.
I'LL BUY ANYTHING!
CONTACT ME AT
POLICE HEADQUARTERS

SECRETLY SHEDDING HIS OUTER
GARB, THE PUZZLED REPORTER
STREAKS TOWARD GOTHAM CITY
IN HIS OTHER IDENTITY OF--
SUPERMAN, THE MAN OF STEEL...

I MUST
HAVE A
TALK WITH
BATMAN! HE
DOESN'T GO SPENDING
A MILLION DOLLARS
WITHOUT GOOD REASON!

AND
WHEN
A COPY
REACHES
THE
DESK OF
REPORTER
CLARK
KENT,
IN
NEARBY
METROPOLIS...

A MILLION DOLLARS? COULD
BATMAN HAVE WITHDRAWN
THAT AMOUNT FROM THE BANK
ACCOUNT HE KEEPS IN HIS
OTHER IDENTITY AS **BRUCE**
WAYNE? IF SO-- WHY?

AT THE **BAT-CAVE**, HOWEVER, ONLY **ROBIN**
IS PRESENT TO ANSWER **SUPERMAN'S**
QUESTIONS...

I ASKED **BATMAN**
WHY HE WAS GOING
TO SPEND SO MUCH
MONEY, BUT HE
WOULDN'T TELL
ME!

IF HE WOULDN'T TELL
YOU, HE CERTAINLY
WOULDN'T TELL ME!
HMM... MAYBE HE'S IN
FINANCIAL TROUBLE AND
IS TRYING TO RECOUP HIS
LOSSES QUICKLY!

MEANWHILE, IN A PRIVATE ROOM AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, **BATMAN** FINDS HIMSELF BESIEGED BY BUSINESS OFFERS...

I'VE GOT AN AMUSEMENT PARK...

MY INVENTION NEEDS FINANCING...

SEE ME AGAIN LATER, GENTLEMEN! RIGHT NOW, I'M GOING TO INSPECT A SALVAGE COMPANY I JUST BOUGHT FOR \$100,000!

REACHING THE WATERFRONT, **BATMAN** ISSUES A STARTLING ORDER TO HIS NEW EMPLOYEES...

YOU WANT DIVERS TO CHECK THE BOTTOM OF **GOTHAM BAY**? BUT, BOSS, THOSE WATERS HAVE BEEN COMBED 100 TIMES! THERE'S NOTHING BELOW!

SO WHAT? JUST DO AS I SAY!

AND WHERE **SUPERMAN** HAS BEEN EAVESDROPPING, UNOBSERVED...

FIRST **BATMAN** BUYS A SALVAGE COMPANY, THEN HE WASTES MONEY ON A FRUITLESS JOB! HE MUST BE DESPERATE! WHEN PEOPLE HEAR ABOUT THIS, **BATMAN** WILL LOOK PRETTY SILLY! I CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN...

DIVING INTO WATERS FAR OUT AT SEA, **SUPERMAN** SEARCHES ABOUT, UNTIL...

THAT OLD SPANISH GALLEON SHOULD DO THE TRICK--AFTER I CLEAN IT UP A BIT!

CARRYING THE HULK TO A DESERTED SHORE, THE **MAN OF STEEL** GOES TO WORK...

ONE BLAST OF **SUPER-BREATH** WILL BLOW OFF ALL THE GROWTHS OF SEA WEED...

WHOOSH

I'LL HAVE TO WORK FAST--SCRAPE OFF THESE BARNACLES--AND GET THE SHIP TO **GOTHAM BAY** BEFORE THOSE DIVERS DESCEND!

THUS, WHILE LATER, BACK AT THE SALVAGE BOAT...

LOOK! AN UNDERWATER ERUPTION!

A SUBSURFACE VOLCANO IS ERUPTING! WHEN IT STOPS, WE'LL GO DOWN AND HAVE A LOOK!

LITTLE DO THE DIVERS REALIZE THE TRUE CAUSE OF THIS "VOLCANIC" ERUPTION...

SHORTLY...

CALLING SURFACE! THERE'S AN OLD GALLEON DOWN HERE! IT MUST HAVE BEEN BURIED IN QUICKSAND-- UNTIL THAT VOLCANO BLEW IT OUT!

NOW I'LL PLANT THE GALLEON HERE FOR THE DIVERS TO FIND!

LATER, AS NEWS OF THE FIND BRINGS A CROWD TO THE **BATMAN** SALVAGE BOAT...

BATMAN, I'M PROFESSOR WELKIN OF THE **NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM**! OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS PREPARED TO PURCHASE THE GALLEON FOR \$150,000!

\$150,000? THAT MEANS I'LL BE MAKING A **PROFIT** WITH MY SALVAGE COMPANY!

NOW THAT **BATMAN'S** INVESTMENT PROVED SOUND, THE NEWSPAPERS CAN'T ACCUSE HIM OF SPENDING MONEY FOOLISHLY! I'LL BET HE'S A **HAPPY MAN** NOW!

HAPPY? YOU'D BE SURPRISED, **SUPERMAN**!

BAH! I NOT ONLY GOT MY ORIGINAL INVESTMENT BACK-- BUT I EVEN MADE A **PROFIT**! THIS IS **AWFUL**!

IN THE MEANTIME, WHERE TWO SCHEMING CHARACTERS READ BATMAN'S NEWSPAPER AD...

SAY... HERE'S OUR CHANCE TO UNLOAD THIS PLAYED-OUT OLD MINE OF OURS!

GOOD IDEA... I'M TIRED OF DIGGING FOR GOLD THAT ISN'T THERE! I'LL CALL **BATMAN** RIGHT NOW!



NO SOONER DOES BATMAN RECEIVE THE OFFER THAN...

WHAT--? YOU'RE ACTUALLY GOING TO GIVE \$100,000 IN CASH FOR THAT MINE? BUT, **BATMAN**...EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT OLD VEIN IS VALUELESS!

IT'S MY MONEY, **ROBIN**--AND I'M GOING TO DO WHAT I WANT WITH IT!



AT METEORIC SPEED, SUPERMAN FLASHES INTO OUTER SPACE...

IMMEDIATELY, ROBIN CONTACTS SUPERMAN, AND...

GOLLY...WHEN PEOPLE FIND OUT THAT **BATMAN** ALLOWED HIMSELF TO BE TRICKED INTO BUYING A WORTHLESS MINE, THEY'LL THINK HE'S SLIPPING!

DON'T WORRY, **ROBIN**... I'LL COVER UP **BATMAN'S** MISTAKE-- JUST AS I DID THE LAST TIME!



THE ASTEROID BELT SHOULD PROVIDE WHAT I NEED TO HELP **BATMAN**...

MEANWHILE, AS THE BATMOBILE SPEEDS TOWARD THE MINE...



HERE HE COMES...



...AND THERE GOES THE BRIDGE!

As **BATMAN** LEAVES HIS VEHICLE TO SURVEY THE SITUATION...

SO THAT'S WHY I WAS CUT OFF... IT'S AN AMBUSH! THEY'RE AFTER THE MILLION DOLLARS IN THIS SATCHEL!

With PERFECT TIMING, **BATMAN** CATCHES TWO ATTACKERS HEAD-ON...

EVER GET AN OPEN DOOR SLAMMED IN YOUR FACE?

UHH!

OOF!

THEY'RE DRAWING GUNS! I CAN'T TAKE A CHANCE ON BEING SHOT AND LETTING THEM GET AWAY WITH THIS MONEY!

JUMPING INTO THE **BATMOBILE**, THE CAPED CRIME-BUSTER JAMS THE GAS PEDAL TO THE FLOOR...

SPEED-- GOT TO PUT ON MORE SPEED...

HOLY SMOKE! HE'S GOIN' RIGHT FOR THE BUSTED BRIDGE!

THE **BATMOBILE'S** SUPER-CHARGED MOTOR ROARS WITH POWER, AS THE STREAMLINED VEHICLE ROCKETS FORWARD...

...AND LITERALLY JUMPS THE SPAN OF YAWNING SPACE...



IN THE MEANTIME, WHERE **SUPERMAN** HAS RETURNED TO EARTH'S STRATOSPHERE WITH A TINY ASTEROID...

MY **TELESCOPIC VISION** SHOWS ME THAT **BATMAN** HAS JUST PAID CASH FOR THE MINE! THIS SHOULD LAND RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF HIS NEW PROPERTY!

DOWN STREAKS THE ASTEROID, RIGHT TO ITS TARGET...

LOOK!
A METEOR!

UPON INSPECTING THE "METEOR"...

GULP!
IT'S LOADED WITH **SILVER!**

AND WE JUST SOLD THIS LAND TO **BATMAN**! HE'LL BE ABLE TO SELL THAT METEOR FOR DOUBLE WHAT HE PAID US!

WHA-AAT?

SO ONCE AGAIN, **SUPERMAN** IS PLEASED WITH HIMSELF--UNAWARE OF **BATMAN'S** PRIVATE THOUGHTS...

IT TOOK ME AWHILE TO FIND AN ASTEROID WITH SILVER ORE-- BUT IT WAS WORTH IT, TO MAKE **BATMAN** HAPPY!

THIS IS TERRIBLE! WHY DOES THIS HAVE TO HAPPEN TO ME-- JUST WHEN I DON'T WANT IT!?

AND NEXT DAY, IN THE WORKSHOP OF A CRACKPOT INVENTOR...

YOU MADE A WISE INVESTMENT, **BATMAN**! FOR \$100,000 YOU NOW OWN THE WORLD'S MOST UNUSUAL MACHINE... ONE THAT COUNTS GRAINS OF SAND!

SOUNDS USEFUL! LET'S TRY IT OUT!

BUT, AS **BATMAN** PRESSES THE STARTER BUTTON...

GREAT SCOTT! IT'S RUNNING AMOK! WHAT HAPPENED?

OH, DEAR... IT'S DONE THAT BEFORE! IT'S HUNTING FOR SAND TO COUNT... IT WILL KEEP DIGGING UNTIL IT FINDS SOME!

CLICK CLICK

RRRRR

BUT, NOT FAR AWAY...

HAS **BATMAN** LOST HIS MIND-- BUYING SUCH A CRACKPOT INVENTION? WELL, HERE I GO TRYING TO HELP HIM AGAIN!

CLICK
CLICK

OH-OH ... HE GOT TOO CLOSE TO THE MACHINE!
IT'S GOT HIM!

CLICK

CLICK

AFTER A SPEEDY TRIP TO A NEARBY SAND QUARRY...

JUST AS I EXPECTED-- THE MACHINE IS TOSSING **BATMAN** AWAY NOW THAT IT'S APPROACHING SAND!

WHILE THE MACHINE COUNTS GRAINS OF SAND...

SUPERMAN-- STOP!
I-I WANT TO PAY FOR THE DAMAGE DONE!

DON'T BE SILLY... I'LL DO IT, AND SAVE YOU SOME MONEY!

SUPERMAN!

BEFORE **BATMAN** CAN PROTEST, **SUPERMAN** MAKES SOME ADJUSTMENTS IN THE MACHINE, AND TAKES IT TO A CONSTRUCTION COMPANY...

AS YOU CAN SEE, I FIXED THE MACHINE SO THAT IT WILL DIG ANYWHERE!

AMAZING! A ROBOT SCOOP SHOVEL! A MACHINE LIKE THAT WOULD SAVE ME A FORTUNE IN TIME AND WORK! I'LL GIVE YOU \$125,000 FOR THE RIGHTS TO IT!

BUT WHEN **SUPERMAN** TELLS **BATMAN** OF THIS PROFIT- MAKING SALE...

SUPERMAN, YOU'RE MY FRIEND-- BUT PLEASE MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS! I CAN HANDLE MY OWN AFFAIRS!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND... WHY SHOULD **BATMAN** BE ANGRY BECAUSE I SAVED HIM SOME MONEY?

LATER, AS **BATMAN** GOES TO THE SITE OF ANOTHER POSSIBLE PURCHASE...

WHERE'S THE MAN WHO CALLED ABOUT SELLING ME HIS TROLLEY LINE? I-- OH-OH... YOU THREE AGAIN!

YEAH, **BATMAN**-- THAT PHONE CALL WAS JUST BAIT TO GET YOU HERE!



NOW THAT I'M HERE, WHAT DO YOU PLAN DOING ABOUT IT?

OOFF!

AGAIN AND AGAIN, THE THUGS CHARGE, ONLY TO BE BEATEN BACK...

NO-- DON'T SHOOT! THE BOSS DOESN'T WANT HIM KILLED! I'LL HANDLE HIM!

DOWN COMES A GUN BUTT, KNOCKING **BATMAN** UNCONSCIOUS-- BUT, AS THE BANDITS FLEE...

REMEMBER, WE DELIVER THIS MILLION BUCKS RIGHT TO THE BOSS-- AND THEN HE PAYS US **TWO** MILLION, A FEW DAYS LATER! GOOD PAY FOR THIS JOB, EH?

BUT THAT'S CRAZY... JUST AS CRAZY AS **BATMAN** TRYING TO BUY A TROLLEY LINE THAT ISN'T USED ANYMORE! WELL, IT'S A GOOD THING I CAME ALONG WHEN I DID!



RELAX, BOYS-- ALL I WANT IS THE MONEY THAT BELONGS TO **BATMAN**!

UPON RETURNING THE CASH TO **BATMAN**...

MY MONEY! THANKS, **SUPERMAN**-- THANKS A LOT!

FIRST **BATMAN** IS UPSET BECAUSE I MAKE MONEY FOR HIM... AND NOW HE'S GLAD BECAUSE I SAVE HIS MONEY! WHY?... WHAT GOES ON AROUND HERE?

YIPE! **SUPERMAN**!



SOME TIME LATER, A HERCULEAN FIGURE BREAKS INTO A PRIVATE HOME...

SUPERMAN!

YES-- I ONLY LET YOUR MEN GO SO THEY COULD LEAD ME TO THEIR BOSS! I'M ARRESTING YOU FOR ROBBERY!

BUT, **SUPERMAN**... I WASN'T GOING TO KEEP THE MONEY! I INTENDED TO RETURN IT, AFTER THE FOUR DAYS WERE UP!

INTENDED TO RETURN-- A **MILLION** DOLLARS? BUT WHY? AND WHY AFTER FOUR DAYS? TALK! WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?

"IT BEGAN WITH A LAWYER READING THE WILL OF MY WEALTHY UNCLE, CARL VERRIL..."

"TO MY NEPHEW, LARRY, I LEAVE \$100,000, IN THE HOPE THAT HE WILL INVEST IT WISELY AND BECOME A MAN INSTEAD OF A WASTREL!"

"YES, OLD CARL VERRIL WAS AN ECCENTRIC CHARACTER-- AND HIS WILL WAS JUST LIKE HIM..."

"TO MY SON, VINCENT, I LEAVE A MILLION DOLLARS, WHICH HE MUST **SPEND IN FOUR DAYS!** HE MUST INVEST NO MORE THAN \$100,000 IN EACH PURCHASE-- AND NO PURCHASE MUST MAKE MONEY-- SO THAT AT THE END OF THE FOUR DAYS, VINCENT WILL **BE PENNILESS!**"

"IF THIS IS DONE, VINCENT WILL THEN RECEIVE **TEN MILLION DOLLARS!** IF IT IS NOT DONE THEN THE TEN MILLION GOES TO MY NEPHEW, LARRY!"

YOU SEE, YOUR FATHER WANTED YOU TO SQUANDER A MILLION DOLLARS AND BE PENNILESS, SO THAT WHEN YOU GET THE TEN MILLION, YOU'D RESPECT MONEY AND INVEST IT WISELY!

I UNDERSTAND! I'M TO HAVE ONE WILD SPREE-- AND GET IT OUT OF MY SYSTEM FOR- EVER! VERY WELL, I'LL START SPENDING THE MILLION TOMORROW!

BUT THAT NIGHT, VINCENT HAD AN EMERGENCY OPERATION, AND ASKED THE LAWYER IF **BATMAN** COULD SUBSTITUTE FOR HIM...

YES--ON CONDITION **BATMAN** DOES NOT TELL ANYONE WHY HE MUST SPEND THE MILLION DOLLAR.

IF **BATMAN** COMPLETES THE TERMS OF THE WILL, I'LL GIVE HIM **NINE MILLION DOLLAR FOR CHARITY**, AND KEEP ONLY ONE MILLION FOR MYSELF!



HMPH-- VINCE WOULD RATHER CHARITY GET THE MONEY THAN I! ONLY ONE THING TO DO... HIRE THUGS TO STEAL THAT MILLION FROM **BATMAN**--SO HE CAN'T SPEND IT-- THEN, WHEN THE FOUR DAYS ARE UP, THE TEN MILLION WILL GO TO ME!



NOW I UNDERSTAND WHY BATMAN WAS UPSET WHEN HIS PURCHASES MADE MONEY-- BUT WAS HAPPY WHEN I RECOVERED THE STOLEN MILLION FOR HIM! HMM... I'VE GOT TO HELP **BATMAN** MAKE UP FOR LOST TIME-- HELP HIM SPEND THAT MILLION, SOMEHOW...



AFTER JAILING LARRY AND HIS HIRELINGS...

BUT HOW CAN YOU HELP ME SPEND THE MONEY WITHOUT VIOLATING THE TERMS OF THE WILL?



WHEN WE GET TO MY **SECRET CITADEL**, I WANT YOU TO BUY A FEW THINGS...

THUS, BATMAN SOON FINDS HIMSELF THE POSSESSOR OF A PILE OF NONDESCRIPT OBJECTS-- WHILE **SUPERMAN** HAS A MILLION DOLLARS FOR CHARITY...

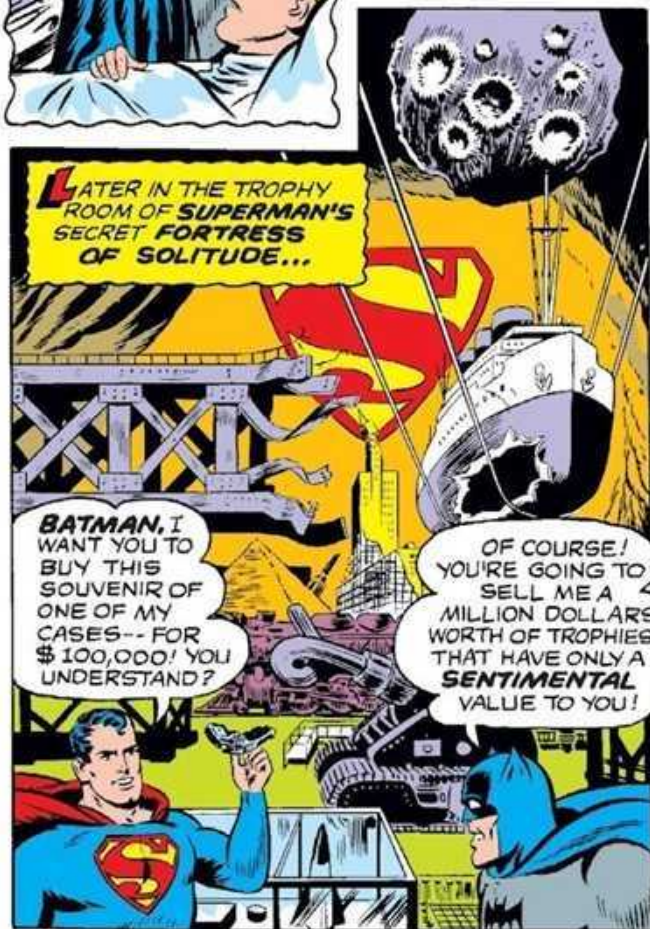
LATER IN THE TROPHY ROOM OF **SUPERMAN'S SECRET FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE...**

BATMAN, I WANT YOU TO BUY THIS SOUVENIR OF ONE OF MY CASES-- FOR \$100,000! YOU UNDERSTAND?

OF COURSE! YOU'RE GOING TO SELL ME A MILLION DOLLARS' WORTH OF TROPHIES THAT HAVE ONLY A **SENTIMENTAL** VALUE TO YOU!

THAT'S IT... I'M PENNILESS, AND I DON'T OWE YOU ANOTHER CENT!

YES, BUT SOMEONE ELSE STILL OWES YOU \$100,000-- AND I'M GOING TO SEE THAT IT'S PAID BACK!



SHORTLY AFTERWARD...

LOOK! ANOTHER
METEOR'S LANDED
ON THE MINE
SITE WE SOLD
BATMAN!

MAYBE IT'S
SOLID SILVER,
TOO, LIKE THE ONE
BATMAN SOLD
TO THE SILVER
REFINERY
COMPANY!

UPON INSPECTING THE "METEOR"...

LOOK AT IT
SHINE! SILVER--
AND **BATMAN**
DOESN'T KNOW
IT'S HERE!

WELL, WE'RE NOT GONNA
TELL HIM! **BATMAN**
THINKS THIS LAND IS
WORTHLESS NOW! HE'LL
BE GLAD TO SELL IT
BACK FOR THE
\$100,000 HE
GAVE US!

LATER, AFTER THE SALE HAS BEEN MADE...

HERE'S YOUR
\$100,000,
SUPERMAN!
NOW I'M
REALLY
PENNYLESS!

AND THOSE TWO CROOKS
WILL BE, TOO! THEY
DON'T KNOW I ONLY
COATED THE **OUTSIDE**
OF THAT BOULDER WITH
SILVER, BEFORE I THREW
IT DOWN TO EARTH!

AND SO, ONE WEEK LATER...

GOSH,
BATMAN--
LOOK AT
THAT KEEN
BIKE! BOY,
WOULD I
LIKE THAT
FOR MY
BIRTHDAY!

I SHOULD SAY NOT!
I HAVEN'T GOT MONEY
TO THROW AWAY!
WHAT DO YOU THINK
I AM-- A
MILLIONAIRE?

HA,
HA!

SPORTING GOODS

THE
END

WORLD'S
FINEST
COMICS



MARCH NO. 100



WORLD'S FINEST

COMICS

*"The
DICTATOR
of KRYPTON CITY!"*

BATMAN--
SUPERMAN!--
THE MECHANISM TO
BRING YOU BACK TO
NORMAL SIZE HAS
BEEN DESTROYED!

THE
PLANET
KRYPTON

YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES

SUPERMAN
and

BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
"THE BOY WONDER"

IN ONE
ADVENTURE
Together!

IT WAS THE STRANGEST,
MOST BIZARRE MANHUNT
OF ALL TIME... A CHASE
THAT LED FROM METROPOLIS
TO THE FROZEN ARCTIC--
AND FINALLY TO A CITY
ON THE PLANET **KRYPTON!**
IT WAS A CHASE INVOLVING
GIANTS AND TINY PEOPLE, IN
WHICH **SUPERMAN, BATMAN**
AND **ROBIN** HAD TO MATCH
WITS WITH...

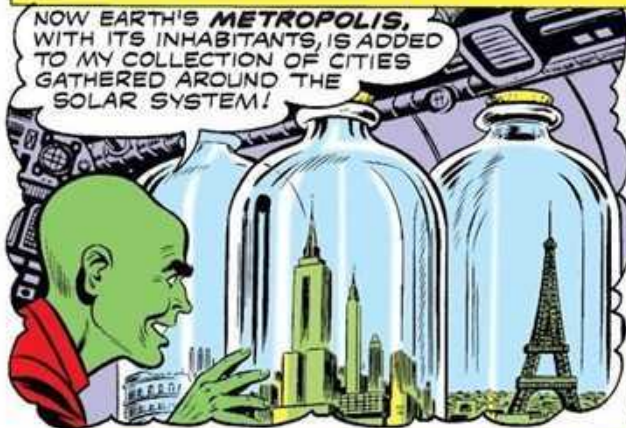
**THE
DICTATOR
of KRYPTON
CITY**

AIM ME
HIGHER,
BATMAN--
HIGHER-- SO
I CAN STOP
LUTHOR FROM
WORKING THE
CONTROLS OF
THIS **IRON
COLOSSUS!**



NOT LONG AGO, AN ALIEN FROM OUTER SPACE USED A STRANGE RAY TO SHRINK CITIES AND STORE THEM IN GLASS BOTTLES...

NOW EARTH'S **METROPOLIS**, WITH ITS INHABITANTS, IS ADDED TO MY COLLECTION OF CITIES GATHERED AROUND THE SOLAR SYSTEM!



UNKNOWN TO THE ALIEN, SUPERMAN WAS WITHIN SHRUNKEN METROPOLIS-- AND WHEN HE FLEW OUT TO INSPECT THE BIZARRE COLLECTION IN HIS CAPTOR'S SPACE SHIP, HE SAW...



A CITY FROM **KRYPTON**, MY HOME WORLD! THE ALIEN MUST HAVE COLLECTED IT YEARS BEFORE THE PLANET EXPLODED!

ENTERING KRYPTON'S CITY, THE MAN OF STEEL ENCOUNTERED STILL ANOTHER SURPRISE...

I CAN'T FLY! THE ALIEN HAS DUPLICATED KRYPTON'S GRAVITY CONDITIONS IN THE BOTTLE-- SO THAT I HAVE NO SUPER-POWERS HERE AS I WOULD HAVE ON EARTH!



AT LAST, SUPERMAN MANAGED TO DEFEAT THE ALIEN'S RAY, RESTORE ALL THE CITIES TO THEIR ORIGINAL SIZE AND RETURN THEM TO THEIR HOME PLANETS-- ALL EXCEPT ONE...

KRYPTON CITY HAS NO HOME PLANET TO RETURN TO NOW! I'LL KEEP THE BOTTLE HERE IN MY SECRET FORTRESS-- SO THAT ITS PEOPLE MAY LIVE ON WITHOUT DANGER!



NOW THIS ADVENTURE, WRITTEN BY NEWSPAPER REPORTER CLARK KENT (SECRETLY SUPERMAN) IS READ WITH INTEREST BY HIS OLD FOE, THE RENEGADE SCIENTIST LUTHOR...



KENT'S NEWS STORY TOLD ME EXACTLY HOW I CAN GET RID OF **SUPERMAN** FOR GOOD-- WITH MY NEWEST INVENTION! WATCH WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I PRESS A SWITCH ON THIS BELT...

INSTANTLY, A WEIRD AURA ENVELOPS LUTHOR, AS THE INCREDIBLE HAPPENS...

HOLY SMOKE! YOU SHRUNK! YOU'RE ONLY A FEW INCHES HIGH!

YES--AND I CAN MAKE MYSELF EVEN SMALLER, BY TURNING THE SWITCH TO FULL POWER! WITH BELTS LIKE THIS, WE CAN SNEAK INTO GUARDED PLACES WITHOUT BEING SEEN, AND STEAL THE PLANS OF TOP-SECRET INVENTIONS!



FLIPPING ANOTHER SWITCH, LUTHOR RETURNS TO NORMAL STATURE...

I'VE HIDDEN EXTRA BELTS HERE FOR THE OTHER MEN IN OUR ORGANIZATION! BUT FIRST, WE MUST PUT AN END TO SUPERMAN! HERE IS MY PLAN...

NEXT DAY, AS SUPERMAN, BATMAN AND ROBIN MAKE AN APPEARANCE AT A CHARITY ATHLETIC SHOW...

ATTENTION, SUPERMAN! THIS IS LUTHOR! I HAVE INVENTED A WEAPON THAT CAN DESTROY ANY CITY OF MY CHOOSING! I CHALLENGE YOU TO STOP ME IF YOU CAN... HA, HA!

LUTHOR AGAIN!



AS THE JET PLANE ROCKETS AWAY...

THIS TIME LUTHOR'S OUTSMARTED HIMSELF! HE DOESN'T KNOW IT-- BUT HE'S LEFT A TRAIL FOR ME TO FOLLOW!

WAIT FOR US, SUPERMAN... WE'RE GOING WITH YOU IN THE BAT-PLANE!

SOON AFTER, AS SUPER-VISION PROBES THE SKY...

THE JET'S BURNING FUEL HAS LEFT A WAKE OF MICROSCOPIC DEPOSITS IN THE ATMOSPHERE--MAKING A TRAIL THAT WILL LEAD US RIGHT TO LUTHOR'S HIDEOUT!

AT THE TRAIL'S END, THE CAPED TRIO CRASHES INTO THE HIDEOUT, ONLY TO DISCOVER...

IT'S EMPTY! LUTHOR MUST HAVE REALIZED I WAS TRAILING HIM, AND LEFT HURRIEDLY!

HE LEFT SO FAST, HE DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO TAKE HIS INVENTION WITH HIM! THAT MUST BE IT ON THE TABLE!

IT'S CERTAINLY A COMPLICATED GADGET! I WONDER HOW IT WORKS?

I'LL TAKE IT TO MY **FORTRESS** FOR SAFEKEEPING, AND EXAMINE ITS MECHANISM THERE--AS I DO WITH **ALL UNKNOWN, DANGEROUS MACHINES!**



STREAKING NORTHWARD AT METEORIC SPEED, SUPERMAN REACHES A DESOLATE MOUNTAINTOP IN THE ARCTIC...

FROM ABOVE, THAT LOOKS LIKE A LUMINOUS ARROW MARKER TO GUIDE PLANES OVER THIS LONELY REGION! ACTUALLY, IT'S A **SUPER-KEY**, WEIGHING TONS, WHICH NO ONE ELSE CAN LIFT!



IT FITS INTO A COLOSSAL DOOR SO HEAVY THAT NO OTHER HUMAN COULD BUDGE IT!



BEHIND THIS FORMIDABLE DOOR LIES SUPERMAN'S SECRET FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE, WHEREIN ARE KEPT HIS TROPHIES AND SUPER-EQUIPMENT...

NOW I'LL GET SOME TOOLS TOGETHER SO I CAN TAKE LUTHOR'S MACHINE APART FOR EXAMINATION!



BUT WHEN SUPERMAN DISAPPEARS INTO THE TOOL ROOM...

HA, HA... **SUPERMAN** DOESN'T KNOW THIS "INVENTION" IS A FAKE--AND THAT MY CHALLENGE TO HIM WAS ONLY A RUSE TO GET HIM TO TAKE OUR "**TROJAN HORSE**" INTO HIS FORTRESS! NOW, MEN--WHEEL OUT THE **FLYING DRILL**!



SWIFTLY, THE FLYING MACHINE BORES THROUGH THE METAL CORK IN THE BOTTLE CONTAINING THE SHRUNKEN KRYPTON CITY...

THIS COMPLETES THE FIRST PART OF MY PLAN! WHEN THE SECOND PART IS FINISHED--**SUPERMAN** WILL BE, TOO!



RETURNING, SUPERMAN FINDS A NOTE EXPLAINING HOW HE WAS TRICKED...

SO THAT'S IT! LUTHOR INTENDS TO TAKE OVER **KRYPTON CITY!** ONLY ONE THING TO DO... THIS BELT HE LEFT BEHIND TO TAUNT ME WITH... I MUST USE IT TO SHRINK MYSELF SO I CAN ENTER THE CITY, TOO!

MOMENTS LATER...

SINCE I HAVE NO SUPER-POWERS IN **KRYPTON CITY,** I'LL HAVE TO PARACHUTE DOWN! ONCE I LAND, I'LL WARN THE PEOPLE AGAINST LUTHOR!

BUT AS SUPERMAN ALIGHTS ON THE EDGE OF THE CITY...

LUTHOR!

YES, WE WATCHED YOUR DESCENT AND WERE WAITING FOR YOU! THE ONLY REASON I LEFT THAT NOTE AND BELT BEHIND WAS TO LURE YOU HERE!

OUTNUMBERED, HAMPERED BY THE TANGLING PARACHUTE, THE MAN OF STEEL FIGHTS A VALIANT BUT HOPELESS BATTLE...

OOF! EVEN WITHOUT HIS **SUPER-STRENGTH,** THAT GUY'S TOUGH!

HOLD HIM, YOU FOOLS! HOLD HIM SO WE CAN KNOCK HIM OUT!

AT LAST, SUPERMAN SINKS INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS--A PRISONER OF HIS MOST DANGEROUS ENEMY!

PART TWO OF MY PLAN IS FINISHED! NOW THAT I'VE TAKEN THE BELT FROM **SUPERMAN,** HE'LL BE TRAPPED IN THIS BOTTLED CITY FOREVER!

OKAY, LUTHOR-- NOW LET'S FLY OUT OF HERE AND GET BACK TO OUR NORMAL SIZE!

NOT YET! **KRYPTON** HAD A CIVILIZATION FAR AHEAD OF EARTH'S... THERE MAY BE INVENTIONS HERE WE CAN MAKE USE OF!

MEANWHILE, BACK AT LUTHOR'S HIDEOUT...

THESE ARE THE EXTRA BELTS LUTHOR WANTS US TO MOVE TO HIS NEW HIDEOUT WHILE HE'S TAKING CARE OF **SUPERMAN**-- IN CASE **BATMAN AND ROBIN** COME BACK TO SNOOP AROUND!

WE'VE ALREADY COME BACK! WE HAD A HUNCH SOME OF LUTHOR'S GANG MIGHT RETURN!



BATMAN AND ROBIN!

WHAT'S THIS ABOUT **SUPERMAN**? WHAT ARE THESE BELTS FOR? WHAT'S LUTHOR UP TO? **TALK--AND TALK FAST!!**

A-ALL RIGHT, I'LL TELL YOU... I'LL TELL YOU EVERYTHING!

BECAUSE THEY ARE THE ONLY OTHER PERSONS WHO KNOW THE FORTRESS'S LOCATION, BATMAN AND ROBIN SOON ARRIVE THERE IN THE SWIFT BAT-PLANE...

THE DOOR'S CLOSED! HOW CAN WE GET IN?

THE BELTS... BY DIRECTING THE RAYS, WE'LL NOT ONLY SHRINK OURSELVES, BUT THE **BAT-PLANE** AS WELL!



PRESENTLY, THE TINY BAT-PLANE FLIES FORWARD-- THROUGH THE KEYHOLE INTO THE FORTRESS...

...THEN DOWN THROUGH THE OPEN HOLE IN THE METAL CORK-- AND INTO KRYPTON CITY!

SUPERMAN IS A PRISONER DOWN THERE SOMEWHERE... WE'VE GOT TO FIND HIM AND STOP LUTHOR!



IN THE MEANTIME, DOWN BELOW...

AFTERWARD, AS THE NEW DICTATOR INSPECTS HIS CONQUEST...

ATTENTION KRYPTONITES!

MY NAME IS LUTHOR--
AND FROM NOW ON, I'M
BOSS HERE!

CRIMINALS!
WHAT SHALL WE
DO? CRIME HAS
BEEN OUTLAWED ON
KRYPTON FOR SO
MANY CENTURIES,
WE'VE FORGOTTEN
HOW TO FIGHT
WICKED MEN!

SO THIS IS WHERE
YOU KEEP YOUR
INVENTIONS-- IN THIS
MUSEUM! I WANT
YOU TO SHOW ME
HOW EACH ONE
WORKS!

Y-YES,
SIR!

AS HIS MEN ARROGANTLY PATROL
THE CITY, HOWEVER, THEY ARE
UNAWARE OF KEEN EYES OBSERVING
THEM...

LOOK, **ROBIN**--ONE OF
LUTHOR'S MEN! I'VE
GOT AN IDEA...

AS THE
HOODLUM
TURNS A
CORNER, A
HAMMER-
LIKE
FIST
SLAMS
HIS
JAW...

AND, WITHIN MINUTES, **BATMAN**
COMPLETES A STRANGE
TRANSFORMATION...

GOSH-- WITH THAT CROOK'S
CLOTHES ON, AND WITH MAKE-UP
FROM YOUR UTILITY BELT,
YOU LOOK EXACTLY
LIKE HIM!

AWHILE LATER, THE DISGUISED **BATMAN**
APPROACHES ANOTHER THUG...

C'MON... LUTHOR WANTS
US TO BRING **SUPERMAN**
TO HIM!

OKAY! I WONDER
WHAT KIND OF
SCHEME THE BOSS
IS COOKING UP
NOW?

THUS BATMAN'S RUSE LEADS HIM TO A CAVERN ON THE CITY'S OUTSKIRTS, WHERE...

HERE HE IS...
UGH!

BATMAN!

RIGHT, SUPERMAN!
WE'LL JOIN ROBIN
AS SOON AS I
SHUCK THIS
DISGUISE!

SOON, AT THE MUSEUM...

L-LOOK--
SUPERMAN!

BATMAN AND
ROBIN-- HERE? THEY
MUST HAVE DROPPED
BY PARACHUTE, AS
SUPERMAN DID!

INSTANTLY, THE WILY LUTHOR LEAPS AT THE
CONTROLS OF A MACHINE AND...

WELL, THESE FIREBALLS
SHOULD SLOW THEM
DOWN!

THEY WON'T
STOP ME,
LUTHOR!

WAIT, SUPERMAN!
YOU HAVE NO
SUPER-POWERS
HERE!

OH, I FORGOT!
JUST FORCE OF
HABIT...

IN THAT SAME INSTANT, ROBIN
HURLS A BATARANG WITH DEADLY
ACCURACY...

WHAT...? HE'S DAMAGED
THE CONTROLS! BUT
I'M NOT
BEATEN
YET!

SMASH!

LEAPING
INTO A
SQUAT
MACHINE,
LUTHOR
PRESSES
A
BUTTON,
AND...

GREAT SCOTT!
WE'LL NEVER BE
ABLE TO OUTRUN
THAT IRON COLOSSUS!
SUPERMAN, IF
ONLY YOU HAD
YOUR SUPER-POWERS
HERE, YOU COULD
FLY UP AND STOP
LUTHOR!

BUT I
CAN FLY
WITH YOUR
HELP!



LATER, REDUCING THE MUSEUM'S MACHINES TO MICROSCOPIC SIZE, SO THAT THEY WILL FIT INTO HIS TINY FLYING BORE, LUTHOR LEAVES KRYPTON CITY...

WELL, BOYS--MY PLAN WORKED OUT BETTER THAN I EXPECTED! WE NOT ONLY GOT RID OF **SUPERMAN**, BUT **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, TOO!

UPON RETURNING TO **SUPERMAN'S** **FORTRESS**, AND RESUMING THEIR NORMAL SIZE...

HOW COME WE DON'T GO RIGHT AWAY, BOSS? YOU GOT ANOTHER IDEA?

NATURALLY! **SUPERMAN** HAS SOME DANGEROUS INVENTIONS HERE, FROM PAST CASES! WE'LL REDUCE THEM, AND TAKE THEM ALONG, TOO! COME ON! LET'S LOOK AROUND THE ROOMS!

MEANWHILE, IN **KRYPTON CITY**, THREE FORMS DIG THEIR WAY UP OUT OF A MASS OF RUBBLE...

WHEW! **SUPERMAN**, IT'S A GOOD THING YOU REMEMBERED THAT ROOM LED TO A BASEMENT!

YES--WE DUCKED DOWN THESE STAIRS JUST IN TIME!

AND ONLY A FEW MINUTES LATER...

LUCKILY, LUTHOR THOUGHT WE DROPPED INTO THE CITY WITH PARACHUTES, AS YOU DID, **SUPERMAN**! IF HE KNEW WE CAME IN THE **BAT-PLANE**, HE'D HAVE SEARCHED FOR IT AND DESTROYED IT!

BUT, WHEN THEY ATTEMPT TO REGAIN THEIR NORMAL STATURE...

ONLY **ROBIN'S** BELT WORKS! OURS MUST HAVE BEEN DAMAGED BY PIECES OF FLYING RUBBLE!

IT DOESN'T MATTER... I'LL TURN THE RAY OF MY BELT ON YOU!

BEFORE THE **BOY WONDER** CAN DO SO, HOWEVER...

ROBIN! HE GOT OUT SOMEHOW! QUICK! GRAB HIM!

GOT TO GET LOOSE... TURN RAY ON SUPERMAN AND BATMAN--OR THEY'LL REMAIN TINY FOREVER!

IT IS THEN THAT LUTHOR'S SHARP EYES DISCERN TWO ELFIN FIGURES...

OHO! SUPERMAN AND BATMAN! HA, HA! THEY'RE SO TINY I CAN SIMPLY CRUSH THEM UNDER-FOOT!

BUT SUDDENLY...

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN, LUTHOR? I'M FREE OF KRYPTON CITY'S GRAVITY NOW! I MAY BE SMALL--BUT I HAVE MY SUPER-POWERS BACK!

YOW

CRASH

HEARING THAT, THE FRANTIC THUGS RUSH AWAY BLINDLY--BLUNDERING INTO THE TROPHY ROOM SUPERMAN HAS BUILT IN HONOR OF BATMAN...



LOOKS LIKE THIS CENT HAS CAUGHT YOUR SCENT!

AS FOR BATMAN, THE TINY CRIME-FIGHTER IS BUSY, TOO...

NEXT MOMENT...

I DON'T HAVE SUPER-POWERS... BUT ONCE I TIE THIS SHOELACE TO THIS BOOT, I'LL SHOW SUPERMAN A SUPER-TRICK!

VERY CUTE, BATMAN... YOU MADE YOUR OWN STATUE DO YOUR FIGHTING FOR YOU!

OOF!

THEN, WITH ONE BURST OF SPEED, **SUPERMAN** HURTTLES FORWARD, BOUNCING FROM BANDIT TO BANDIT, LIKE A RUBBER BALL...



LATER, USING CAPTURED BELTS, **SUPERMAN** AND **BATMAN** RETURN TO NORMAL SIZE... AND TO THEIR PRISONERS...

FORTUNATELY, LUTHOR AND HIS GANG COULDN'T SEE OUT OF THEIR "TROJAN HORSE" WHEN YOU FIRST BROUGHT THEM HERE-- SO WITH THESE BLINDFOLDS ON, THEY STILL WON'T KNOW WHERE YOUR **FORTRESS** IS, WHEN WE FLY THEM OUT OF HERE TO PRISON!

YES, **BATMAN**-- THE WHEREABOUTS OF MY **FORTRESS** WILL REMAIN A SECRET!

AFTERWARD, WHEN **SUPERMAN** RETURNS THE STOLEN MACHINES TO **KRYPTON CITY'S** MUSEUM...

KRYPTON CITY IS SAFE AGAIN! THANKS TO THE HELP OF **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, THE PEOPLE OF MY HOME PLANET CAN NOW LIVE OUT THEIR LIVES WITHOUT FEAR!



WORLD'S FINEST COMICS



MAY NO. 101



WORLD'S FINEST

COMICS

**"MENACE of the
ATOM MASTER!"**

STOP,
SUPERMAN!
IF I TURN MY
RAY MACHINE
ON FULL POWER,
BATMAN AND
ROBIN ARE
DOOMED!



YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES-- IN ONE ADVENTURE TOGETHER!

SUPERMAN
1940, U. S. PAT. OFF.

and

BATMAN
AND
ROBIN

IT WAS THE MOST
BAFFLING MYSTERY
THE CRIME-FIGHTING
TEAM EVER FACED!
COLOSSAL MONSTERS
APPEARED FROM
NOWHERE-- AND NOT
EVEN **SUPERMAN**
COULD TRAP THEM...
BANDITS POPPED OUT
OF THE CLEAR BLUE
SKY-- AND NOT EVEN
BATMAN AND
ROBIN COULD
HALT THEM! WHERE
DID THEY COME
FROM? WHERE DID
THEY GO? IT WAS
ONLY AFTER A FIERCE
STRUGGLE THAT THE
WORLD'S THREE
GREATEST CRIME-
FIGHTERS FINALLY
FOUND THE STRANGE
REASON FOR...

THE MENACE OF THE ATOM- MASTER

**SUPERMAN--
STOP!** IF YOU
DON'T LEAVE, **BATMAN**
AND **ROBIN** ARE
DOOMED! MY MEN
WILL TURN THE RAY
ON FULL POWER!

GREAT
SCOTT!
WHAT CAN
I DO NOW?



IN METROPOLIS, ONE MORNING, PEDESTRIANS LOOK UP TO VIEW A STARTLING SIGHT...

BUT AN EVEN GREATER SURPRISE AWAITS THEM, AS...



EEEEK! HE'S EMPTIED THE CAGE!

SUPERMAN'S SET THE BEASTS LOOSE! RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!

LOOK! SUPERMAN!

HE'S CARRYING A HUGE CAGE FILLED WITH WILD BEASTS!

AND AT THIS VERY MOMENT, IN NEARBY GOTHAM CITY...



WHAT'S COME OVER SUPERMAN? HE'S LAUGHING AT US NOW!

HE MUST'VE LOST HIS MIND! RUN! RUN!

WATCH OUT! IT'S THE BAT-PLANE!

HAS BATMAN GONE CRAZY? WHY IS HE BUZZING THE CITY?



AND THROUGH THE BAT-PLANE'S WINDSHIELD CAN BE SEEN TWO GRINNING FACES ...



NOW HE'S DROPPING STICKS OF DYNAMITE!

HELP! LET ME OUT OF HERE!



WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO SUPERMAN, BATMAN AND ROBIN? WHAT IS THE MOTIVE FOR THEIR SUDDEN MENACING BEHAVIOR...?

STRANGELY ENOUGH, WHEN THE NEWS REACHES REPORTER CLARK KENT, IN THE OFFICE OF THE **DAILY PLANET**...

CLARK! ISN'T IT AWFUL, WHAT'S HAPPENED TO **SUPERMAN**? HE SET SOME WILD BEASTS LOOSE IN THE STREETS!

WHAT--?



SHORTLY, AT THE SCENE OF HAVOC...



NO SIGN OF MY IMPERSONATOR OR THE WILD BEASTS ANYWHERE-- BUT THEY LEFT A TERRIBLE TRAFFIC JAM IN THEIR WAKE!

HONK!
HONK!

ONCE ALONE, CLARK UNDERGOES A SWIFT CHANGE OF GARB...

I'M ONE PERSON WHO KNOWS THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE-- SINCE I'M **SUPERMAN**!



DARTING TO A NEARBY LUMBER YARD, **SUPERMAN** WORKS AT BLURRING SPEED...



I'LL HAVE TO BUILD A PLATFORM BIG ENOUGH TO HOLD ALL THE CARS IN THAT TIEUP!

AFTER PICKING UP HIS SUPER-LOAD...



NOW I'LL JUST MOVE THESE CARS TO NEARBY SIDE STREETS, WHERE THEY CAN DRIVE OFF!

MEANWHILE, IN THE GOTHAM CITY HOME OF WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

THOUGH THE BURSTING DYNAMITE, DROPPED BY **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, CAUSED NO SOUND AND NO DAMAGE, THE PEOPLE ARE STILL MILLING ABOUT IN PANIC...

BRUCE, WE'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH, DICK! INTO YOUR COSTUME -- **FAST!**



UPON REACHING THE SCENE IN THEIR SECRET IDENTITIES...



GREAT SCOTT! SOME PANICKY WORKMEN RAN FROM THE ADVERTISING SIGN THEY WERE INSTALLING-- AND NOW IT'S TIPPING OVER!

QUICKLY, **BATMAN** SCALES THE OPPOSITE ROOF AND SWINGS ACROSS THE VOID ON HIS SILKEN LASSO...



IT'LL TOPPLE ON THE CROWD BELOW UNLESS I CAN PUSH IT BACK...

LIKE A BATTERING RAM, HE SWINGS HIS FULL WEIGHT INTO THE SIGN...



THERE--THAT SHOULD HOLD IT IN POSITION UNTIL THE WORKERS CAN FASTEN IT SECURELY!

THAT DONE, **BATMAN** SHOUTS TO QUIET THE THROG...



ATTENTION, EVERYBODY! I DID NOT DROP THE DYNAMITE! I WAS BEING IMPERSONATED! THE DANGER IS OVER!

LATER, THREE MYSTIFIED HEROES MEET TO DISCUSS THE STRANGE SITUATION...

PEOPLE SAID MY IMPERSONATOR AND THE BEASTS RAN INTO A DARK ALLEY, AND THAT WAS THE LAST ANYONE SAW OF THEM!

HMM... AS FOR THE DYNAMITE MY IMPERSONATOR DROPPED, IT EXPLODED **NOISELESSLY**, WITHOUT DOING ANY DAMAGE!

GOLLY! IT'S ALMOST AS IF EVERYTHING WAS ARRANGED JUST TO CAUSE PANIC!

YES--BUT WHY? TO MAKE PEOPLE DISTRUST US? IT'S CERTAINLY A PUZZLE!



A PUZZLE INDEED-- BUT NOT TO A GLOATING
FIGURE ELSEWHERE...

HA, HA! MY TRIAL
EXPERIMENT WAS A SUCCESS!
SOON I'LL BE READY TO
COMPLETE MY FINAL PLAN!

BUT THAT WILL TAKE MONEY...
MONEY FOR EQUIPMENT! I'LL HAVE
TO RECRUIT A GANG OF BANDITS AT
ONCE -- AND HAVE THEM **STEAL**
THE MONEY FOR ME!

IT IS THE
FOLLOWING
DAY WHEN A
COLOSSAL
CREATURE
SUDDENLY
LOOMS ON
THE GOTHAM
CITY
STREETS...

A GIANT
CRAB!

RUN!
RUN!

BUT A MOMENT LATER, FROM
HIGH ABOVE...

I FIGURED
SOMETHING NEW
WOULD HAPPEN
IF I WAITED
LONG ENOUGH!
I'D BETTER
CORRAL THAT
THING FAST!

YET, AS **SUPERMAN**
ROUNDS A CORNER IN
PURSUIT...

WHAT--?
IT'S **GONE!**
BUT WHERE
COULD IT HAVE
FLED TO SO
QUICKLY?

IN THE MEANTIME, WHERE THE
SLEEK **BATMOBILE** SPEEDS
TO THE SCENE...

CALLING ALL CARS! FOUR
BANDITS, TAKING ADVANTAGE
OF CONFUSION CAUSED BY THE
APPEARANCE OF THE
GIANT CRAB, HAVE
LOOTED **GOTHAM
JEWELRY SHOP**
AND FLED IN
YELLOW SEDAN!



CRASH!

INSTANTLY, **SUPERMAN** RACES AHEAD OF THE RAMPAGING TORRENT, AND...

...AND I COULDN'T STOP MY MOMENTUM IN TIME! I'VE CRACKED THE DAM OPEN!

THE WATERS WILL FLOOD THE TOWN UNLESS I CAN TURN THEM BACK! A BURST OF **SUPER-SPEED** SHOULD DO THE TRICK!



THE SUCTION IT CREATES WILL NOT ONLY DRAW THE WATER BACK INTO THE DAM--BUT ALSO THE DEBRIS WHICH WILL TEMPORARILY CLOG UP THE HOLE I MADE!



NOW TO GET SOME MORTAR AND COMPLETE THE JOB...BUT BEFORE I DO THAT, I'D BETTER GET TO A POLICE RADIO AND TELL **BATMAN** WHAT I'VE LEARNED!

SOON AFTER...

YES, **BATMAN**--SOMEBODY IS CREATING FANTASTIC ILLUSIONS!

NO WONDER THAT "SEDAN" GOT AWAY FROM US SO QUICKLY! THE BANDITS ESCAPED IN THE **REAL** GETAWAY CAR! WELL, **SUPERMAN**--WE'LL BE READY FOR THE NEXT ILLUSION NOW!

BUT, ELSEWHERE, EVEN AS THIS CONVERSATION TAKES PLACE ...

"HA, HA!" THANKS TO MY REMOTE-CONTROLLED TELEVISION SCREEN, I'M AWARE THAT **SUPERMAN** AND **BATMAN** NOW KNOW ABOUT THE ILLUSIONS I'VE CREATED!



THE SALE OF THESE STOLEN GEMS WILL GIVE ME ENOUGH CASH TO BUY THE EQUIPMENT I NEED... BUT SHOULD WE RUN SHORT OF MONEY, I'LL PULL ONE MORE ROBBERY-- AND THEN I'LL BE READY FOR MY **FINAL PLAN!**



THE NEXT DAY...

ATTENTION ALL CARS! THREE CREATURES, SUSPECTED TO BE ALIENS FROM OUTER SPACE, ARE MENACING **GILMORE STREET!**



ILLUSIONS AGAIN! LET'S GO, **BATMAN!**

AS THEY REACH THE SCENE...



THERE THEY ARE! GOSH-- THEY CERTAINLY LOOK REAL! WHAT'LL WE DO?

LOOK FOR SOME CRIME! THIS IS JUST A DIVERSION TO PULL US AWAY FROM THE **REAL** BANDITS-- LIKE THE "SEDAN" TRICK!

THERE THEY ARE! THEY'VE JUST LOOTED **GOTHAM BANK!** LET'S GET 'EM!



HOLD IT, **ROBIN!** THE THREE "ALIENS" THREW SHADOWS-- BUT THESE DON'T! **ILLUSIONS CAN'T CAST SHADOWS!** THESE ARE THE ILLUSIONS-- THE "SPACEMEN" ARE THE REAL CRIMINALS IN DISGUISE!



AS THE COSTUMED TRIO TRIES TO ESCAPE THROUGH A DEPARTMENT STORE REVOLVING DOOR, **BATMAN** LAUNCHES HIMSELF FORWARD, AND...



DESPERATELY, THE BANDITS DISCARD THEIR PROP GUNS FOR REAL WEAPONS, AS THE CRIME-FIGHTERS CLOSE IN...



WHEN **SUPERMAN** ARRIVES...



LATER, IN THE **BAT-CAVE'S** CRIME LABORATORY...



THEN, AS **BATMAN** TURNS AN ULTRA-VIOLET LAMP ON THE COLLECTED DUST...

AH... THAT'S THE TELLTALE COLOR OF A COMBINATION OF MINERALS CALLED **FELDSPAR**! THIS GRADE OF FELDSPAR IS USUALLY FOUND IN **CLAY** USED FOR MAKING **POTTERY**!

JUST OUTSIDE THE CITY, THERE'S AN OLD POTTERY PLANT THAT'S BEEN ABANDONED FOR YEARS! I'VE A HUNCH IT'S NOT ABANDONED NOW!

SEATING HIMSELF INSIDE HIS WEIRD APPARATUS, THE RENEGADE SCIENTIST PRESSES A SERIES OF BUTTONS, AND...

A **SUPER RAY-MACHINE**! NOW-- TOUCH THE MACHINE!

GULP! BOSS-- WHAT IS IT?

MEANWHILE, IN THE ROOM THAT SERVES AS HIS WORKSHOP, THE ILLUSION-MASTER BRIEFS HIS HIRELINGS...

AS YOU KNOW, BY PROJECTING MY **THOUGHT-IMAGES** INTO THIS MACHINE, I'VE BEEN ABLE TO REARRANGE DUST IN THE AIR, TO CREATE ANY ILLUSION I WISHED! NOW WATCH!

AMAZINGLY, THE THUG'S HAND DOES **NOT** GO THROUGH THE ILLUSION...

HUH? IT'S-- IT'S **SOLID**!

EXACTLY... I'VE COMPLETED MY ULTIMATE PLAN AT LAST! I CAN NOW REARRANGE THE **ATOMS** IN DUST TO CREATE ILLUSIONS-- AND THEN **MATERIALIZ** THEM!

SUDDENLY...

ALL RIGHT, **BATMAN**-- WE'VE HEARD ENOUGH! LET'S GRAB THEM!

SUPERMAN!

FOOLS! WORK
THE CONTROLS OF
THE RAY-MACHINE!

NEXT INSTANT, AS A WEIRD BEAM ENVELOPS
BATMAN AND ROBIN...

OH, NO!
WE'RE
PARALYZED--
COMPLETELY!

DON'T
WORRY...
I'LL FREE
YOU!

SUPERMAN-- STOP!
IF YOU MOVE ONE MORE
INCH, **BATMAN** AND
ROBIN ARE DOOMED!
MY MEN WILL TURN
THE RAY ON FULL
POWER!

GREAT SCOTT!
WHAT CAN
I DO?

I--I'VE NO CHOICE!
I MUST DO AS YOU
SAY!

CORRECT...
HA, HA, HA!

BUT ALL
AT ONCE...

EYOW!
A
DINOSAUR!

IT'S
COMING
STRAIGHT
AT US!



SWIFTLY, THE **MAN OF STEEL** MOLDS THE MACHINE INTO GIANT HANDCUFFS THAT IMPRISON THE STUPEFIED CRIMINALS...

WH-WHAT HAPPENED?
WHERE'S THE DINOSAUR?

THERE NEVER WAS ANY DINOSAUR! WHAT YOU SAW WAS ONLY AN ILLUSION WHICH **I** CREATED TO SCARE YOU OFF THE ROBOT-MACHINE!

NO SOONER DOES THE FRIGHTENED GANG SCRAMBLE AWAY THAN...

NOW--ONE SHOVE ON THIS LEVER WILL FREE **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**!

SUPERMAN!



YOU SEE, **BATMAN**, WHEN I LEFT, I RETURNED UNSEEN AT **SUPER-SPEED**, KNOCKED OUT THE **ATOM-MASTER** AND TOOK OVER THE CONTROLS! WHEN HE AWAKENS, HE'LL FIND HIMSELF IN A PRISON CELL!

YES--AND IT WILL BE A **REAL** CELL--**NOT AN ILLUSION!**



(12)
THE
END

**WORLD'S
FINEST
COMICS**



JUNE NO. 102

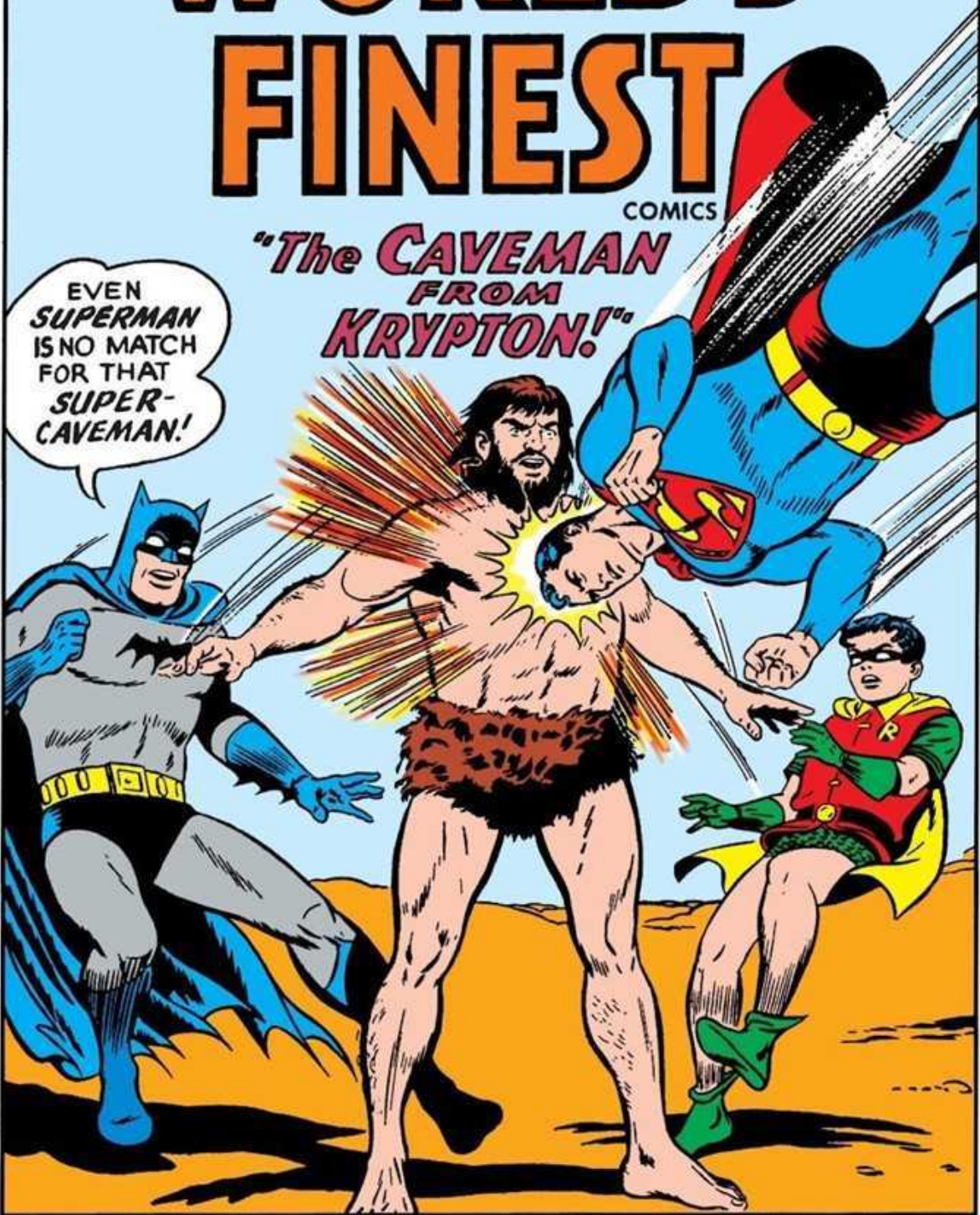


WORLD'S FINEST

COMICS

*"The CAVEMAN
FROM
KRYPTON!"*

EVEN
SUPERMAN
IS NO MATCH
FOR THAT
SUPER-
CAVEMAN!



YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES

SUPERMAN
AND U. S. PAT. OFF.

and

BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-

WHEN HIS NATIVE PLANET, **KRYPTON**, EXPLODED YEARS AGO, **SUPERMAN** WAS SAVED AND BECAME A CHAMPION OF JUSTICE ON EARTH! BUT SUDDENLY ANOTHER SURVIVOR ARRIVES--AND THIS NEWCOMER POSSESSES **SUPER-POWERS** HERE, TOO--SUPER-POWERS THAT BECOME A MENACE TO EARTH! THEN IT IS THAT **SUPERMAN, BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** TEAM UP TO LAUNCH AN ALL-OUT FIGHT AGAINST THE MOST DANGEROUS ENEMY THEY'VE EVER FACED...

IN ONE
ADVENTURE
Together!

the **CAVEMAN** from
KRYPTON



ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF **METROPOLIS**, A FIERY OBJECT SUDDENLY FLASHES FROM THE SKY...

A METEOR! AND IT'S FALLEN ON MY FARM! I'D BETTER NOTIFY THE OBSERVATORY! THOSE ASTRONOMERS WOULD BE INTERESTED IN THIS!

CRASH

SOON AFTER, AS THE SCIENTISTS APPROACH THE METEOR, THEY FIND THAT IT HAS CRACKED OPEN-- AND WITHIN IS A STARTLING SIGHT!

WHY--THERE'S A MAN INSIDE-- A **CAVEMAN!**

A **CAVEMAN--** FROM OUTER SPACE!



ON A ROUTINE AIR PATROL, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, THE BOY WONDER, SIGHT A CROWD BELOW. LANDING, THEY LEARN OF THE MYSTERIOUS VISITOR...

...YES, **BATMAN**--EVEN THOUGH HE'S IN SUSPENDED ANIMATION, WE TOOK THE PRECAUTION OF BORROWING A CAGE FROM THE ZOO--IN CASE HE SHOULD AWAKEN!

GOLLY! I STILL CAN'T FIGURE HOW A CAVEMAN GOT INSIDE A METEOR!

MEANWHILE IN METROPOLIS' **DAILY PLANET**, REPORTER CLARK KENT, WHO IS SECRETLY **SUPERMAN**, GETS AN ASSIGNMENT...

CLARK, THERE'S A REPORT THAT A CAVEMAN LANDED IN A METEOR AT BARRY'S FARM! SOUNDS PHONY TO ME -- BUT CHECK ON IT!

A CAVEMAN? THIS MIGHT LEAD TO TROUBLE! I'D BETTER SWITCH TO MY **SUPERMAN** IDENTITY, JUST IN CASE!

ELSEWHERE, AT THAT MOMENT...

THE **CAVEMAN'S** MOVING! HE'S AWAKENING!

REARING, THE BRUTE MAN LOOKS ABOUT IN BEWILDERMENT, THEN SAVAGELY GRABS THE BARS CONFINING HIM...

HE'S BENDING THOSE BARS!
ROBIN-- GET OUT YOUR SILKEN ROPE! MAYBE WE CAN LASH HIS ARMS TO HIS SIDES TO RENDER HIM HELPLESS!

ARCHH!

BUT BEFORE THE CRIME-FIGHTERS CAN ACT...

ARCH!

AT THAT INSTANT, **SUPERMAN** ARRIVES AT EYE-BLURRING SPEED...

I'LL PIN THAT BRUISER DOWN FAST AND TIE HIM UP WITH THE BARS OF THE CAGE!

BUT **SUPERMAN** GETS THE SURPRISE OF HIS LIFE WHEN...

I--I COULDN'T BUDGE HIM!

CRASH!

THIS BEGINS A RAGING BATTLE OF THE TITANS...

ARCH!

OOF! HE'S GOT SUPER-STRENGTH! I'VE GOT A FIGHT ON MY HANDS!

ROARING SAVAGELY, THE **CAVEMAN** SPRINGS AT **SUPERMAN** -- BUT TO THE SURPRISE OF BOTH COMBATANTS...

SURPRISED BY HIS OWN FEAT, THE **CAVEMAN** CRASHES INTO AN OIL TANK...



LEAPING FREE, THE ENRAGED **CAVEMAN** GLARES AT THE WRECKAGE -- AND THE INCREDIBLE HAPPENS!



AND THAT **SUPERMAN** ATTEMPTS TO DO AS HE BORROWS AN EMPTY FARM SILO...

QUICKLY, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** SEIZE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS FROM THE **BAT-PLANE** AND RUSH TO **SUPERMAN'S** AID...

WE'LL PUT OUT THE SMALL FIRES CREATED BY SOME SPLASHES OF BURNING OIL-- WHILE **SUPERMAN** TAKES CARE OF THE MAIN BLAZE!



SOON AFTER ...

BAKING SODA AND VINEGAR COMBINE TO FORM THE SAME TYPE OF FOAM USED IN FIRE EXTINGUISHERS! NOW--WITH MY SUPER-BREATH--I'LL BLOW THE FOAM OVER THE ENTIRE AREA AND SMOTHER THE FLAME!

WHEN THE DANGER IS GONE...

IMAGINE--A **CAVEMAN** WITH SUPER-POWERS LIKE YOURS, **SUPERMAN!** WHERE COULD HE HAVE COME FROM?

LET'S EXAMINE THE METEOR THAT BROUGHT HIM HERE! MAYBE IT'LL GIVE US SOME CLUES!



BUT EVEN ON YOUR PLANET, EARLY MAN MUST HAVE BEEN EXTINCT! HOW COULD THIS ONE STILL BE ALIVE--INSIDE A METEOR?

I CAN IMAGINE WHAT HAPPENED! AGES AGO, HE MUST HAVE BEEN TRAPPED IN A LAVA PIT, WHERE THE CHEMICAL REACTION OF THESE COMBINED ELEMENTS CREATED A STRANGE GAS THAT KEPT HIM IN SUSPENDED ANIMATION...



WHY--I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT! THIS METEOR--IT'S COMPOSED OF ELEMENTS THAT ARE ONLY FOUND ON MY NATIVE PLANET!

THEN THAT MEANS THE **CAVEMAN**... CAME FROM **KRYPTON!**



"A MILLION YEARS PASSED AS MAN ON **KRYPTON** EVOLVED--UNTIL **KRYPTON** EXPLODED--AND THE HARD CORE OF LAVA ENCASING HIM WAS FLUNG INTO SPACE!"

ALL THE TIME HE MUST HAVE BEEN DRIFTING THROUGH SPACE BEFORE BEING DRAWN INTO EARTH'S ORBIT!

YES--AND COMING FROM **KRYPTON**, HE HAS SUPER-POWERS HERE AS I DO! **BATMAN**, WE MUST FIND AND STOP THE **CAVEMAN** BEFORE HIS SUPER-POWERS BECOME A MENACE TO EARTH!



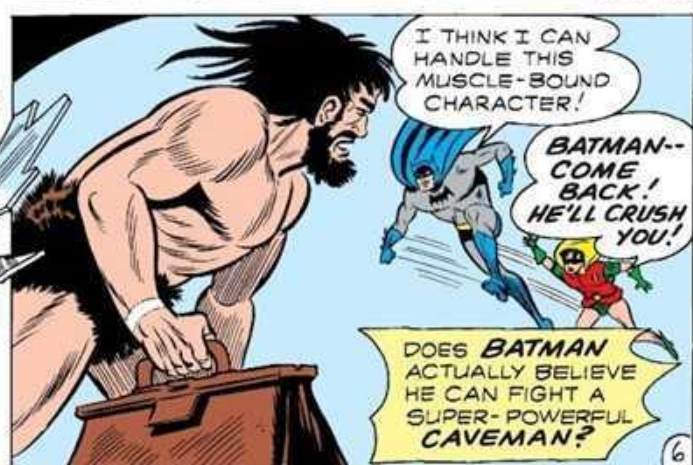
NEWSPAPERS SWIFTLY HEADLINE THE FANTASTIC EVENT...



MEANWHILE, THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS HAVE SPLIT UP INTO TWO SEARCH TEAMS, AND AS **SUPERMAN** COVERS A SECTOR OF THE CITY...



AT THAT MOMENT, IN ANOTHER PART OF THE CITY...



BATMAN'S KNOTTED FIST LANDS FLUSH ON HIS TARGET--AND **STAGGERS THE HULKING FIGURE!**



HUH?

WITH A GRUNT, THE BRUTISH FIGURE SUDDENLY TURNS--AND RACES FEARFULLY AWAY FROM THE PURSUING **BATMAN!**



I DON'T GET IT! **SUPERMAN** COULDN'T EVEN BUDGE THE **CAVEMAN**--BUT **BATMAN** ALMOST KNOCKED HIM OFF HIS FEET!

THE CHASE LEADS TO THE **NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM'S** OUTDOOR EXHIBIT OF DINOSAUR "FOSSILS"--ACTUALLY MODELS MADE OF CEMENT...



LOOK OUT! HE'S GOT A GUN!

A **CAVEMAN**--WITH A GUN?

WHAM!

SUDDENLY, THE ACRO-**BATMAN** HOPS ATOP THE JUTTING HORN OF A **TRICERATOPS**, AND...



ULP! DON'T HIT ME AGAIN! I GIVE UP!

HE ISN'T THE **REAL CAVEMAN**--BUT A CROOK IN MAKEUP! HOW'D YOU KNOW?

WHEN I SAW THE MARK AROUND HIS WRIST--OBVIOUSLY MADE BY A **TIGHT WRIST WATCH BAND!** THIS CROOK KNEW HIS **CAVEMAN** MAKEUP WOULD SCARE AWAY THE JEWELRY SHOP GUARD SO HE COULD MAKE A BIG HAUL!



AT THAT MOMENT, THE **REAL CAVEMAN** APPEARS...



URGHNN?

WITH A BELLOW OF RAGE, THE **CAVEMAN** LEAPS DOWN, AND...



LATER, BY GESTURES, THE BANDIT LURES THE **CAVEMAN** TO A GANGLAND HIDEOUT...



MEANWHILE, HAVING SUMMONED **SUPERMAN**, **BATMAN** EXPLAINS THE SITUATION...



IN THE **BAT-CAVE**, **BATMAN** DUSTS THE GUN FOR FINGERPRINTS AND COMPARES THEM WITH HIS MICROFILE OF KNOWN THUGS...



AT THAT MOMENT, IN AN ISOLATED SECTOR OUTSIDE METROPOLIS, **SUPERMAN** BEGINS A HERCULEAN TASK...



WHAT IS **SUPERMAN'S** PLAN? CAN YOU GUESS?

SOON AFTER...

JO-JO USES THAT GARAGE AS A FRONT FOR HIS CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES!

THAT MEANS PETE AND THE **CAVEMAN** MAY BE INSIDE!

PIER

SUDDENLY, A PAIR OF HANDS SEIZES THEM IN A VISE-LIKE GRIP!

ARGHHH!

THE **CAVEMAN** HEARD YOU APPROACHING! I GUESS YOU FORGOT THAT HE HAS ACUTE **HEARING**!

GARAGE

AND BOUND TIGHTLY, THE CRIME-FIGHTERS ARE HELPLESS PRISONERS WITHIN THE GARAGE...

JO-JO, YOU'RE PLAYING A DANGEROUS GAME! HOW WILL YOU GET AWAY FROM THE **CAVEMAN** AFTER HE'S OUTLIVED HIS USEFULNESS TO YOU?

I'VE GOT THAT ONE FIGURED! WE'RE GOING TO USE THE **CAVEMAN** FOR ONE BIG HAUL-- AND THEN I'LL GET RID OF HIM WITH WHAT'S IN THIS

LEAD-LINED BOX!

AFTER WE PULL OUR BANK JOB, I'LL JUST HOLD THIS PIECE OF **KRYPTONITE** NEAR THE **CAVEMAN**! THAT'LL FINISH HIM-- AND **SUPERMAN**, TOO, IN CASE HE SHOULD TRY TO INTERFERE!



MOMENTS LATER, AS THEY FLEE, THE **CAVEMAN** SEES A FAMILIAR LANDSCAPE...

SOMETIME LATER, THE **CAVEMAN** SMASHES THROUGH THE STEEL DOORS OF THE **METROPOLIS** BANK...

LET'S FILL THESE VALISES, PETE! WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO GRAB ENOUGH DOUGH TO RETIRE!



UGHHH?

AS THE **CAVEMAN** HAPPILY ALIGHTS...

WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

A TRAP! I CHANGED THE LANDSCAPE SO IT WOULD LOOK LIKE THE TERRAIN OF **ANCIENT KRYPTON**! I KNEW THE **CAVEMAN** WOULD THINK THIS WAS HOME AND STOP HERE!

NOW THAT I'VE CAUGHT THE **CAVEMAN** OFF-GUARD, I MAY BE ABLE TO SUBDUDE HIM!

NOT WHEN I GET THAT **KRYPTONITE** OUT OF THE CAR!

UHHH-- **KRYPTONITE**-- ROBBING ME OF MY STRENGTH...

THEY'RE FINISHED, PETE! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

URHHH?...

MEANWHILE, IN THE GARAGE, **BATMAN** HAS MANAGED TO MAKE HIS WAY TO A CAR WITH AN OPEN DOOR...

NOW--I'LL PUSH IN THE **LIGHTER** ON THE CAR'S DASHBOARD...

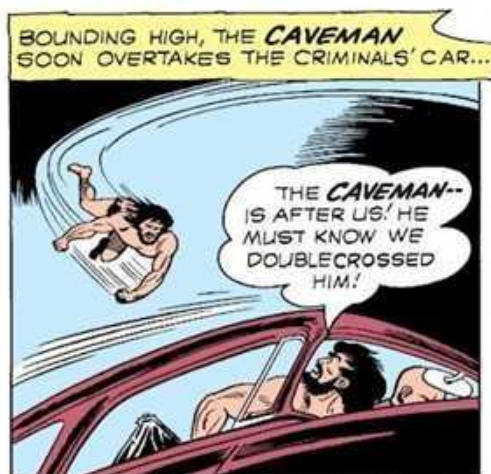
...AND APPLY ITS GLOWING COILS TO **ROBIN'S** BONDS!

NICE GOING, **BATMAN**! AS SOON AS I'M FREE, I'LL UNTIE YOU AND WE CAN GET TO THE **BATMOBILE**!

WHEN THE DYNAMIC DUO REACHES THE REPLICA OF **ANCIENT KRYPTON**...

LOOK! THE **CAVEMAN** CAME HERE JUST AS **SUPERMAN** TOLD US HE WOULD!

QUICKLY--LET'S GET THAT **KRYPTONITE** AWAY FROM THEM!



BUT AS THE TWO FIGURES FACE ONE ANOTHER, SUDDENLY...



**WORLD'S
FINEST
COMICS**



AUG. NO. 103



WORLD'S FINEST

COMICS

LOOK OUT, ROBIN!
THE SORCERER'S
PRISM HAS CAUSED
SUPERMAN TO
LOSE CONTROL OF HIS
SUPER-POWERS!

**"SECRET of the
SORCERER'S
TREASURE!"**

YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES-- IN ONE ADVENTURE
TOGETHER!

SUPERMAN
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

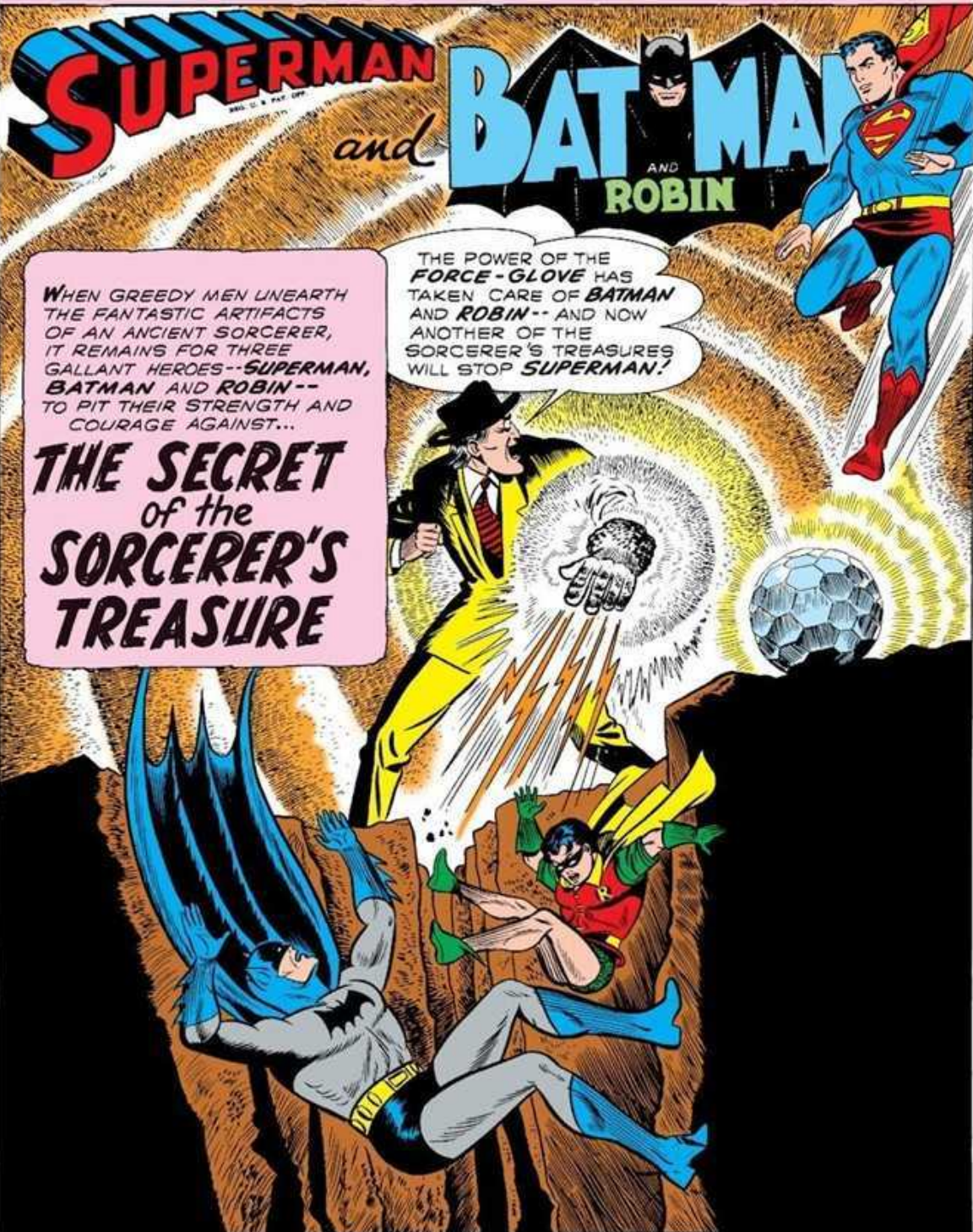
and

BATMAN
AND
ROBIN

WHEN GREEDY MEN UNEARTH
THE FANTASTIC ARTIFACTS
OF AN ANCIENT SORCERER,
IT REMAINS FOR THREE
GALLANT HEROES--**SUPERMAN,**
BATMAN AND **ROBIN**--
TO PIT THEIR STRENGTH AND
COURAGE AGAINST...

THE SECRET of the SORCERER'S TREASURE

THE POWER OF THE
FORCE-GLOVE HAS
TAKEN CARE OF **BATMAN**
AND **ROBIN**-- AND NOW
ANOTHER OF THE
SORCERER'S TREASURES
WILL STOP **SUPERMAN**!



ONE DAY, AS **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, THE BOY WONDER, DRIVE NEAR A GOTHAM CITY PARK...

BATMAN--LOOK AT THAT MAN! HE KEEPS LOOKING BACK OVER HIS SHOULDER, AS IF SOMETHING IS AFTER HIM!

YES--AND WHATEVER IT IS, IT HAS HIM HORRIFIED!

I DIDN'T KNOW IT WOULD GET SO HUGE! I LET IT OUT OF THE BOX--AND IT GREW! THE DRAGON GREW!

DRAGON? THIS MAN'S SO TERRIFIED, HE'S BABBLING NONSENSE!



BUT IN THAT VERY SAME INSTANT...



GREAT SCOTT! I MUST BE DREAMING!

A DRAGON!



IF THAT MONSTER GETS OUT INTO THE STREETS, IT'LL START A TERRIBLE PANIC! I'VE GOT TO DISTRACT IT--KEEP IT CONFINED TO THE PARK!

'ROUND AND 'ROUND SPEEDS THE BATMOBILE IN AN ATTEMPT TO CONFUSE THE CREATURE...

BATMAN! WATCH OUT! IT'S GOING TO STEP ON THE CAR!





CRUNCH!

WHEW!
THAT WAS
CLOSE!

ANGRILY, THE DRAGON ALLOWS THE PAIR TO
BAIT IT DEEPER INTO THE PARK...



**ROBIN--KEEP
IT BUSY WITH
THAT FIREHOSE,
AND GIVE ME
FIVE MINUTES TO GET
TO THE PARK
BEACON!**



FOLLOWING
INSTRUCTIONS,
ROBIN
DIRECTS A
POWERFUL
STREAM
AT THE
BEAST'S
YAWNING
JAWS...

SSSSSS

I CAN'T STALL
THAT OVERGROWN
LIZARD MUCH LONGER!
**BATMAN SHOULD BE
AT THE BEACON NOW--
SO I'D BETTER
SCOOT!**



AND AS THE BOY WONDER LURES THE
DRAGON TOWARD THE PARK'S AIRPLANE-
SPOTTER BEACON...

MUST AIM THIS LIGHT
RIGHT AT THE THING'S
EYES--AND MAKE
SURE I KEEP IT
THERE!



AH...THE TRICK
WORKED! THE
DRAGON'S HALF-
BLINDED...BAFFLED!
I CAN FORCE HIM
BACK INTO THAT
CAVE!

THUS, WITH THE CREATURE FINALLY ENTRAPPED...

I'M GOING TO SUMMON **SUPERMAN** ON MY **BELT-RADIO**! HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN GO IN AND TIE UP THE DRAGON!

GOOD IDEA, MEANWHILE, I CAN-- OH, OH... THERE'S THE MAN WHO CLAIMED HE'D RELEASED THE DRAGON! I'M GOING TO QUESTION HIM...



"WHEN THE SORCERER DIED, THE OBJECTS VANISHED--UNTIL CENTURIES LATER, WHEN BANDITS UNEARTHED THEM AND SMUGGLED THE TREASURE INTO THE UNITED STATES..."

THE POLICE ARE STILL SEEKING US, UNTIL WE ARE SAFE, WE MUST HIDE THE TREASURE!

YES--WE WILL SPLIT IT UP... BURY IT IN FOUR DIFFERENT PLACES! I WILL MAKE A MAP...



THAT'S HOW I CAME IN POSSESSION OF THIS BOX-- THE FIRST TREASURE! BORK MAY HAVE ALREADY FOUND THE SECOND ONE!

I'VE SENT OUT THE CALL FOR **SUPERMAN**... HE SHOULD BE HERE ANY MOMENT!



INDEED, HIGH OVER NEARBY METROPOLIS...



WHEN **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** CALL ME WITH THEIR SUPERSONIC BELT-RADIO SIGNAL, IT'S ONLY FOR AN EMERGENCY! MUST GET TO GOTHAM CITY AT ONCE!

NOW, MISTER-- START EXPLAINING!

MY NAME IS ATKINS! I AND MY PARTNER, BORK, DEAL IN CURIOS! RECENTLY, WE HEARD A FANTASTIC LEGEND ABOUT AN ANCIENT SORCERER WHO POSSESSED FOUR OBJECTS THAT GAVE HIM WEIRD POWERS!



"BUT, IRONICALLY, THREE OF THE BANDITS WERE KILLED IN AN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT-- AND THE FOURTH, DYING, SOLD US THE MAP..."

BORK, I WILL DIG UP THE FIRST OBJECT, BURIED IN GOTHAM PARK...

AND I WILL DIG UP THE SECOND ONE, BURIED AT THE TIP OF THE WATERFRONT! THEN WE'LL MEET AT THE THIRD SPOT AND GO ON TO THE FOURTH TOGETHER!



UPON ARRIVING, **SUPERMAN** IS QUICKLY BRIEFED ON THE EVENTS-- AND THEN...



WE'LL GO AFTER BORK LATER... FIRST, LET'S HOGTIE THAT DRAGON!

BUT INSIDE...

THE DRAGON'S GONE!
BUT HOW? CERTAINLY
NOT THROUGH THIS
CREVICE...IT'S ONLY
BIG ENOUGH FOR A
MAN TO GO THROUGH!

A MAN?
I WONDER...?
ATKINS MIGHT HAVE
SNEAKED IN HERE
WHILE **ROBIN** AND
I WERE BUSY
BRIEFING YOU!

BACK OUTSIDE, **BATMAN** QUESTIONS AN
ONLOOKER...

SURE...I SAW A
MAN COME OUT FROM
THE SIDE OF THE
CAVE! HE WAS
CARRYING A
BOX!

ATKINS! HE MUST HAVE
FOUND INSTRUCTIONS
IN THAT BOX TO
SHRINK THE DRAGON
AGAIN--AND NOW HE'S
ESCAPED WITH IT!

THUS, THE FAMED TRIO FACES A
GRIM TASK...

WE'VE GOT TO STOP
ATKINS AND BORK
BEFORE THEY CAN
LOOSE THE POWERS OF
THE TREASURES!
I'LL GO FOR BORK
AT THE SECOND
HIDING PLACE--
THE WATER-
FRONT!

ATKINS HAS
PROBABLY
GONE ON TO
THE THIRD
SPOT...**ROBIN**
AND I WILL
TRY TO PICK
UP HIS
TRAIL!

AS THE **MAN OF STEEL** RACES TO THE
WATERFRONT BEACH...

SUPERMAN! YOU'VE
COME TO TAKE THE
MAGIC PRISM
FROM ME, EH? WELL,
I WON'T GIVE IT UP...
IT MEANS **POWER**--
UNLIMITED POWER
TO RULE MEN!

GREAT SCOTT!
THE THOUGHT OF
HAVING POWER HAS
UNHINGED BORK'S
MIND! I CAN'T
REASON WITH
HIM NOW.

BUT WHEN **SUPERMAN** TRIES TO TAKE THE
SORCERER'S PRISM BY FORCE...

WHAT...?
THE INSTANT
I TOUCHED
THE THING, I
CAREENED
OFF...

CRASH!

HA, HA! JUST AS AN
ORDINARY PRISM DISTORTS
LIGHT TOUCHING IT, THIS
PRISM DISTORTS AND
DEFLECTS **ENERGY!**



BY THE TIME HE CAN RETURN TO HIS MISSION OF RESCUE...

BORK ESCAPED WHILE I WAS BUSY... PROBABLY GONE TO MEET ATKINS AT THE THIRD SITE!

MEANWHILE, IN A GARAGE ADJOINING THE ATKINS AND BORK CURIO SHOP...

BOTH THEIR CARS ARE STILL HERE! THAT MEANS ATKINS USED ANOTHER METHOD OF TRAVEL TO THE THIRD SITE!

MAYBE WE'LL FIND SOME CLUE INSIDE THE SHOP!

AND IN THE BACK ROOM OF THE SHOP...

HMM... A MAP OF ISLANDS OFF THE GOTHAM CITY COAST! THE THIRD SITE MUST BE ONE OF THESE ISLANDS-- BUT HOW CAN WE TELL WHICH ONE?

A LITTLE FINGER-PRINT POWDER FROM OUR UTILITY BELTS MAY GIVE US THE ANSWER...

AS BATMAN BLOWS SOME POWDER OVER THE MAP'S SURFACE...

NOTICE, **ROBIN**-- FINGERPRINTS ON THE EDGES OF THE MAP, WHERE IT WAS HANDLED! BUT THE ONLY OTHER PRINT IS ON **FIDDLE ISLAND**-- WHERE ATKINS OR BORK POINTED IT OUT!

IN THEIR SWIFT **BAT-LAUNCH**, THE MANHUNTERS RACE TO **FIDDLE ISLAND**, WHERE...

LOOK! ATKINS AND BORK-- FIGHTING!

FIGHTING FOR TREASURES! GREED FOR POWER HAS MADE THEM ENEMIES!

COME ON, **ROBIN**-- LET'S TAKE THEM!

LOOK... **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**!

THEY WANT TO STOP US FROM UNEARTHING THE TREASURES!



AS THE IRATE DRAGON LEAPS, **ROBIN** WHIPS UP THE FALLEN PRISM, AND...



WHEW! IT WORKED! THE DRAGON SLAMMED INTO THE DREDGE SO HARD, IT KNOCKED HIMSELF OUT!

THAT DONE, THE CRIME-FIGHTERS SUDDENLY REALIZE...

ATKINS ESCAPED DURING THE EXCITEMENT WITH THE THIRD TREASURE! IF WE ONLY KNEW WHERE THE **FOURTH** ONE IS LOCATED...

YOU RISKED YOUR LIFE TO SAVE MINE! NOW THAT I'VE COME TO MY SENSES, I'LL TELL YOU WHERE ATKINS HAS GONE!



SOON AFTER...

LOOK--ATKINS HAS UNEARTHED THE FOURTH TREASURE BOX! MAYBE THIS PRISM WILL HELP US CAPTURE HIM!

THOSE MEDDLERS AGAIN! I'LL STOP THEM QUICKLY WITH THE **THIRD TREASURE--THE SORCERER'S GLOVE!**



FROM THE MAGIC GLOVE, AN EERIE FORCE EMANATES--AND, INSTANTLY, A CREVICE OPENS UNDER THE CRIME-FIGHTERS...

HA, HA! TOO BAD YOU DIDN'T KNOW THE GLOVE HAS THE POWER TO **DISSOLVE INERT MATTER!**



NOW IT'S SHRINKING BACK TO ITS ORIGINAL SIZE! I GUESS THAT HAPPENS WHEN IT LOSES CONSCIOUSNESS!

QUICK, **ROBIN**-- PUT IT IN ITS BOX, BEFORE IT REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS AND GROWS AGAIN!



THE FOURTH TREASURE IS BURIED RIGHT ON THIS VERY ISLAND--AT THE SOUTHERN END!

THANKS, BORK... AND LISTEN--WE LEFT A NOTE IN YOUR SHOP, TELLING **SUPERMAN** WE CAME HERE! WHEN HE ARRIVES, TELL HIM WHERE WE'VE GONE!





PICKING UP THE FALLEN PRISM, ATKINS AIMS IT AT **SUPERMAN**, AND...



THEN, AS THE **MAN OF STEEL** RECOVERS...



THE ANSWER COMES AN INSTANT LATER, AS...



BUT THE CUNNING CRIMINAL STILL HAS AN ACE UP HIS SLEEVE...







**WORLD'S
FINEST
COMICS**



SEPT. NO. 104

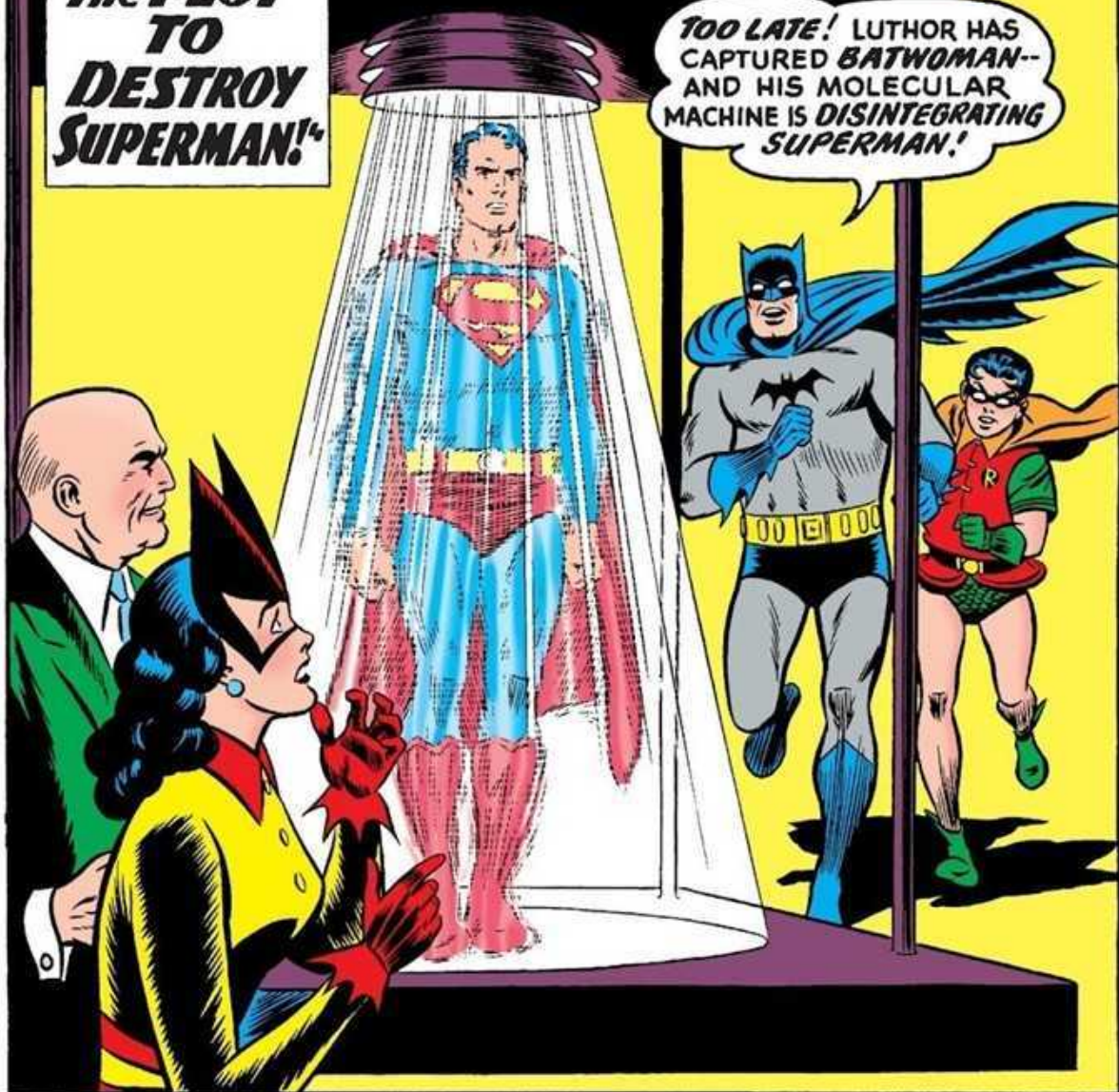


WORLD'S FINEST

COMICS

***"The PLOT
TO
DESTROY
SUPERMAN!"***

***TOO LATE! LUTHOR HAS
CAPTURED BATWOMAN--
AND HIS MOLECULAR
MACHINE IS DISINTEGRATING
SUPERMAN!***



YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES

SUPERMAN
ALL U.S. PAT. OFF.

and

BATMAN
AND
ROBIN

IN ONE
ADVENTURE
Together!

How would you like to see amazing inventions of tomorrow-- that scientists are working on right now? What a prize they would make for greedy thieves, and when they do dare to steal these inventions, it is up to **BATMAN** and **ROBIN** to stop them-- with the aid of **SUPERMAN**, who almost loses his life! Here is the astonishing, exciting story of...

the **PLOT** to
DESTROY
SUPERMAN

DRINK KING COLA



ONE DAY, ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF GOTHAM CITY...



HOLD IT, BATMAN--
OR ROBIN
WON'T LIVE!

YOU'D
BETTER
LEAVE,
BATMAN--RIGHT
NOW!

I GUESS THERE'S
NOTHING ELSE I
CAN DO--IF I WANT
TO SAVE ROBIN'S
LIFE!



SUDDENLY, APPLAUSE GREETES THE
FEAT, FOR THIS IS BUT A DEMONSTRATION
OF CRIME-FIGHTING INVENTIONS OF THE
FUTURE...

AND NOW, LADIES AND
GENTLEMEN--IF YOU WILL RETURN LATER,
ROBIN AND I WILL SHOW YOU ANOTHER
INVENTION WE'RE TRYING TO PERFECT--
THE INFLATABLE BATWINGS!



AGHH!
THAT
GLARE!

I
CAN'T
SEE!

MY NEWEST INVENTION--THE
FLASHBULB BATARANG
DID THE TRICK!

AS THE CROWD FILES OUT ONTO THE
GROUNDS...

GOLLY, THIS
IS CERTAINLY
A WONDERFUL
SHOW!

YES! THE EXPOSITION
OFFERS A GLIMPSE OF WHAT
GOTHAM CITY WILL LOOK LIKE
YEARS FROM NOW--AND HOW
NEW INVENTIONS WILL BE
USED!



ELSEWHERE, SUPERMAN ALSO TAKES
PART IN THE EXPOSITION...



YA-AAAA!

CRACK!

HE SHATTERED
THAT STONE
STATUE WITH A
SUPER-SHOUT!

WOW!

THEN, A NOTED SCIENTIST ANNOUNCES...



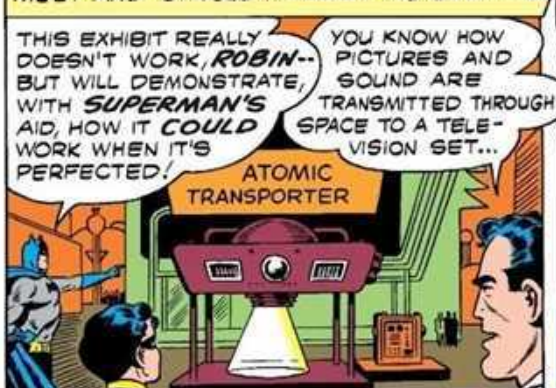
YOU'VE SEEN **SUPERMAN** SHATTER THAT STATUE--JUST AS A SINGER'S VOICE CAN SMASH A GLASS WITH THE VIBRATIONS OF HIS VOICE! I'VE BEEN WORKING ON AN INVENTION USING THAT SCIENTIFIC PRINCIPLE! **WATCH!**

SETTING VARIOUS DIALS, THE SCIENTIST HAS HIS DEVICE EMIT VIBRATIONS AT A BOULDER, UNTIL...



NOTE HOW THE SONIC VIBRATIONS BORED A HOLE THROUGH SOLID ROCK! ONE DAY, LARGER VIBRATORS WILL DIG TUNNELS THROUGH MOUNTAINS...

LATER, THE THREE CRIME-FIGHTERS MEET AND STROLL THROUGH THE GROUNDS...



THIS EXHIBIT REALLY DOESN'T WORK, **ROBIN**-- BUT WILL DEMONSTRATE, WITH **SUPERMAN'S** AID, HOW IT **COULD** WORK WHEN IT'S PERFECTED!

YOU KNOW HOW PICTURES AND SOUND ARE TRANSMITTED THROUGH SPACE TO A TELEVISION SET...

ATOMIC TRANSPORTER

THE INVENTOR, PROF. GUTHRIE, HOPES THAT ONE DAY, WHEN A PERSON STEPS INTO A TRANSPORTER, HIS **ATOMIC** STRUCTURE WILL BE DISINTEGRATED--AND HIS ATOMS TRANSMITTED TO A RECEIVER FAR AWAY--WHERE THE ATOMS WILL BE **REASSEMBLED!**

GOLLY! BUT IF THIS MACHINE DOESN'T WORK NOW, HOW CAN YOU DEMONSTRATE IT?



"WHEN PROF. GUTHRIE THROWS THE SWITCH THAT BATHES ME IN THE RAY, I'LL ROCK BACK AND FORTH SO FAST, IT'LL LOOK LIKE MY ATOMS ARE BEING DISINTEGRATED..."



"THEN MY SUPER-SPEED WILL ENABLE ME TO FLY, UNSEEN, TO THE RECEIVER..."



"...WHERE I'LL SEEM TO APPEAR, AS IF MY ATOMIC STRUCTURE WERE REASSEMBLED THERE!"



GOSH! IF PROF. GUTHRIE EVER PERFECTS HIS **TRANSPORTER**, I COULD GO FROM GOTHAM CITY TO EUROPE IN A SECOND!

SPEAKING OF TIME, THE **BATWOMAN'S** LATE, SHE SHOULD HAVE BEEN HERE AN HOUR AGO TO GIVE A DEMONSTRATION, TOO!



SUDDENLY, A MOTORCYCLE SPEEDS UP AND BRAKES TO A STOP...

YOU'RE LATE! WHAT HAPPENED?

PLENTY! I STOPPED TO GET SOME GAS...



"AS I PULLED IN, I OVERHEARD TWO MEN..."

SO LUTHOR'S GOT SOMETHING BIG PLANNED FOR THE **EXPOSITION**, EH?

YEAH--HE WOULDN'T TELL ME WHAT IT WAS, EXCEPT TO SAY THAT IT'S GOING TO BE THE **BIGGEST CRIME OF THE YEAR!**



"AS I DASHED FOR THEIR CAR..."

LUTHOR--THE RENEGADE SCIENTIST! IF I CAPTURE THEM, MAYBE I CAN FORCE THEM TO TELL ME WHERE HE'S HIDING!

IT'S **BATWOMAN!** STEP ON THE GAS!



"I LEAPED, BUT..."

UHH-- CAN'T HOLD ONTO IT!





THE VIBRATOR RELEASES ITS INCREDIBLE POWER--BUT...



GREAT SCOTT! THE PILOTS OF THOSE BLIMPS WILL BE KILLED UNLESS I DO SOMETHING BEFORE THEY CRASH!



DARTING TO A SCRAP PILE, SUPERMAN SQUEEZES ONE PIPE END TO FORM A SHARP POINT...



PLUMMETING
EARTHWARD,
SUPERMAN
LANDS
ON THE
GETAWAY
VEHICLE
WITH SUCH
FORCE
THAT THE
IMPACT
SHATTERS
ALL FOUR
TIRES
AT
ONCE!



HUH? WHAT
HAPPENED?
WE'RE NOT
MOVING!

OH!!

SURE YOU
ARE! YOU'RE
MOVING RIGHT
TO JAIL!

MENACING THE CROWD WITH GUNS,
THE THIEVES RIDE OFF IN THE GIGANTIC
MACHINE AS...

MEANWHILE, ELSEWHERE ON THE GROUNDS...

MY EXPERIMENTAL INVENTION IS CALLED A
METAL-FORMER. IT CAN INSTANTLY SEND
OUT METAL IN ANY SHAPE DESIRED--
SUCH AS GIRDERS, WIRE, PIPES, AND
SO ON!

THAT'S
WHAT
LUTHOR
WANTS!



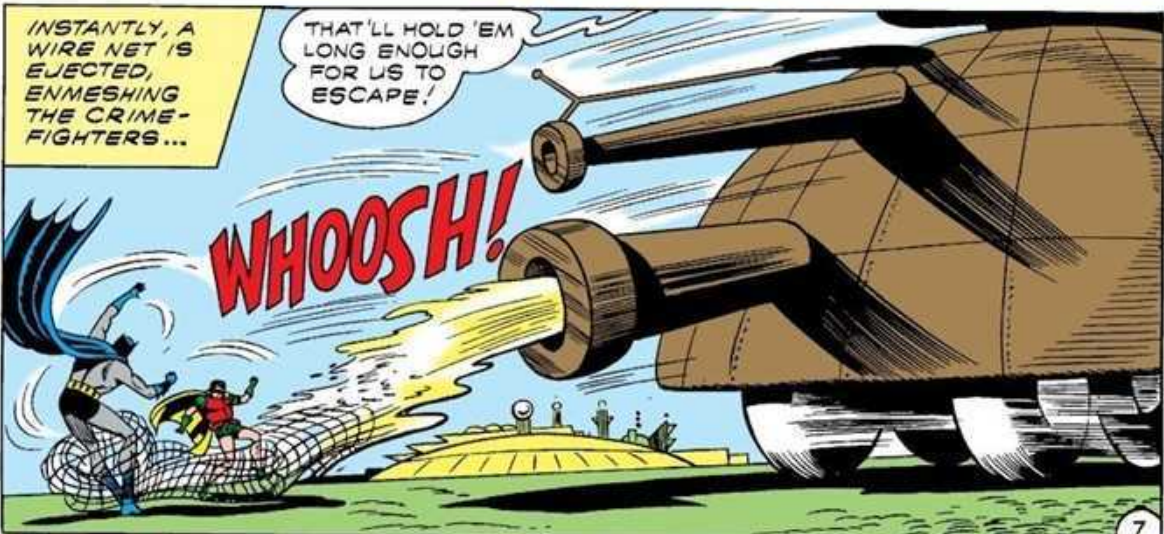
JUST AS WE EXPECTED, **ROBIN**--WHEN
WE PRETENDED TO LEAVE, LUTHOR
THOUGHT IT WAS SAFE
TO STRIKE!

LOOK! **BATMAN**
AND **ROBIN**! PUSH
ONE OF THOSE BUTTONS!



INSTANTLY, A
WIRE NET IS
EJECTED,
ENMESHING
THE CRIME-
FIGHTERS...

THAT'LL HOLD 'EM
LONG ENOUGH
FOR US TO
ESCAPE!



BUT BATMAN WHIPS HIS SILKEN LASSO AT THE MACHINE, AND...

HOLD ON,
ROBIN! THE
MACHINE WILL
DRAG US FREE!

NICE TRY, **BATMAN**--
BUT THIS'LL STOP YOU
FROM GETTING UP
AFTER US!

WE'LL NEVER
CATCH UP
TO THEM,
NOW!

I'M GOING TO TRY--
BY PUTTING OUR
EXPERIMENTAL
INFLATABLE BATWINGS
INTO ACTUAL USE!

FROM HIS UTILITY BELT, BATMAN REMOVES TWO OBJECTS, AND MOMENTS LATER...

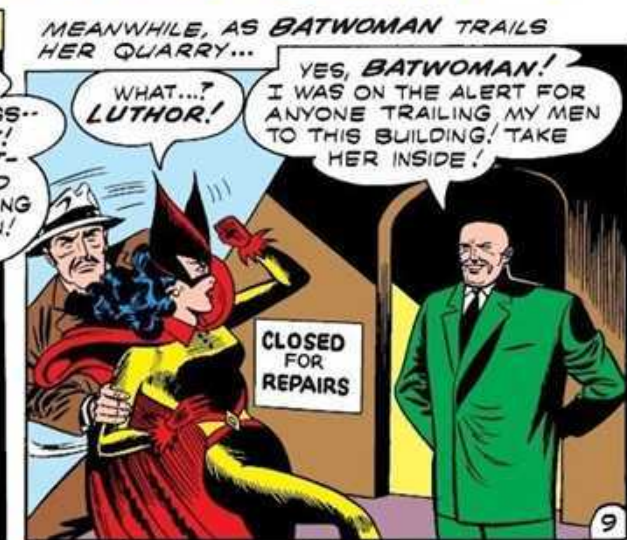
NOW THE GAS
CARTRIDGE
BLOWS UP THE
COLLAPSIBLE
RUBBER WINGS--
JUST LIKE THE
NEW INFLATABLE
AIRPLANE USED
BY THE AIR
FORCE!

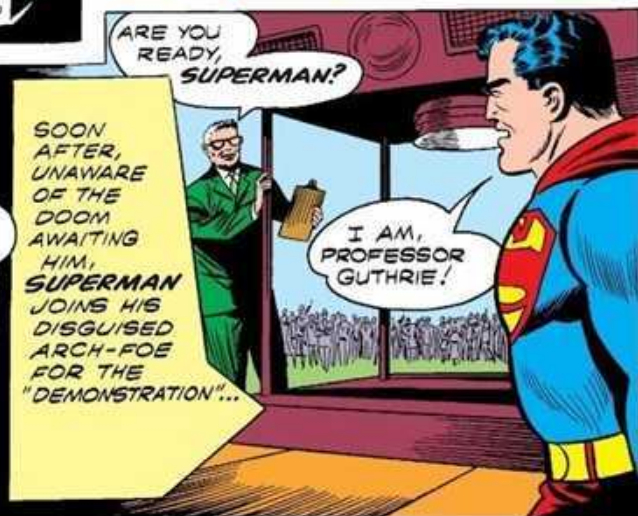
THEN, FITTING
TWO TINY
JETS FROM HIS
UTILITY BELT
TO HIS WINGS,
BATMAN
ROARS IN
PURSUIT OF
THE STOLEN
MACHINE!

I WAS SUPPOSED TO DEMONSTRATE
THESE WINGS TO AN AUDIENCE--
BUT NOW I'LL GIVE THEM A REAL
TRYOUT!

DESPERATELY, THE BANDITS FIRE AT THE ONCOMING **BATMAN**, BUT...

AND THEN, LIKE LIGHTNING--**BATMAN STRIKES!**





THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE!
WHILE **ROBIN** AND I STAY
HERE TO TAKE CARE OF THESE
THUGS, YOU GET GOING AND
WARN **SUPERMAN!**
HURRY!

MINUTES LATER, AS **SUPERMAN**
STEPS UNDER THE TRANSMITTER,
SUDDENLY...

SUPERMAN--
"PROFESSOR GUTHRIE"
IS **LUTHOR!** LOOK!

WHAT...?

BEFORE **SUPERMAN**
CAN ACT, **LUTHOR** DARTS
BEHIND **BATWOMAN**...

STAY WHERE YOU
ARE, **SUPERMAN!**
YOU CAN'T MELT MY
GUN WITH YOUR X-RAY
VISION--NOT WHILE
I'M **BEHIND**
BATWOMAN!

QUICKLY, **LUTHOR** THROWS THE
SWITCH--AND **SUPERMAN'S**
FIGURE SHIMMERS, GROWS
FAINT...

AND THEN THE TRIO
STARES NUMBLY AT
THE EMPTY PLACE
WHERE **SUPERMAN**
STOOD!

SUPERMAN!

YOU'RE
TOO LATE!
SUPERMAN'S
ATOMIC
STRUCTURE
IS
ALREADY
BEING
DISINTEGRATED!
HA, HA!

SOB
HE'S
GONE--
GONE
FOREVER!
SOB

LUTHOR,
YOU'RE
GOING TO
PAY FOR
THIS!

SUDDENLY,
TO THE
ASTONISHMENT
OF ALL, A
FAMILIAR
FIGURE
MAKES A
DRAMATIC
APPEARANCE!



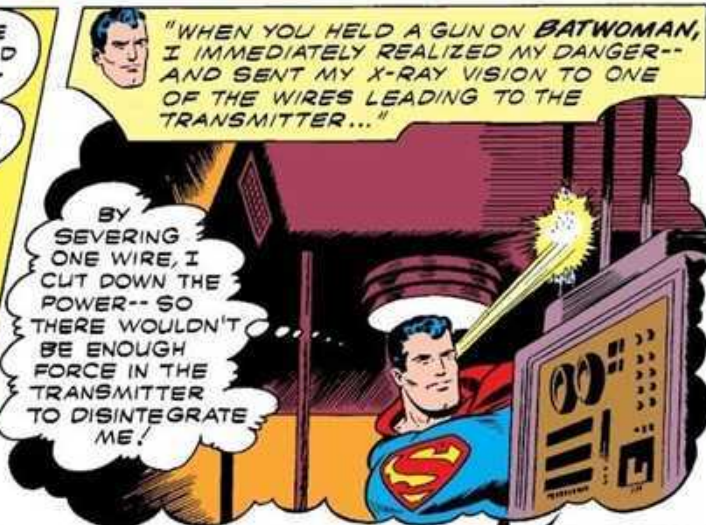
B-BUT I **SAW**
YOU BEING
DISINTEGRATED!
HOW--?

YOU ONLY SAW ME
ROCKING BACK AND
FORTH AT **SUPER-
SPEED**, TO MAKE
YOU THINK I WAS
BEING DISINTEGRATED!



"WHEN YOU HELD A GUN ON **BATWOMAN**,
I IMMEDIATELY REALIZED MY DANGER--
AND SENT MY X-RAY VISION TO ONE
OF THE WIRES LEADING TO THE
TRANSMITTER..."

BY
SEVERING
ONE WIRE, I
CUT DOWN THE
POWER-- SO
THERE WOULDN'T
BE ENOUGH
FORCE IN THE
TRANSMITTER
TO DISINTEGRATE
ME!



LATER,
AFTER
LUTHOR
HAS BEEN
PUT INTO
AN
EXHIBIT
OF THE
JAIL
OF
TOMORROW...



I THINK IT'S
APPROPRIATE THAT
LUTHOR SHOULD
DEMONSTRATE
ITS USE!



WORLD'S FINEST

COMICS

*"The ALIEN
SUPERMAN!"*

GREAT SCOTT!
SUPERMAN HAS
TURNED INTO A HOSTILE
ALIEN BEING--AND HE'S
USING HIS NEW POWERS
AGAINST BATMAN
AND ROBIN!



YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES

SUPERMAN
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

and

BATMAN
AND
ROBIN

IN ONE
ADVENTURE
Together!

THOUGH **SUPERMAN** COMES FROM A FARAWAY PLANET, WHICH WAS DESTROYED MANY YEARS AGO, HIS APPEARANCE RESEMBLES THAT OF EARTH MEN IN EVERY RESPECT! BUT NOW, A STARTLING NEW CHANGE COMES OVER THE **MAN OF STEEL**, AND NOBODY--NOT EVEN **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**--KNOWS HOW TO COPE WITH...

the **ALIEN
SUPERMAN**

GREAT SCOTT!
IN HIS NEW
ALIEN FORM,
SUPERMAN IS
ABLE TO REPEL
THAT **KRYPTONITE**
CAGE!



ONE MORNING, IN THE OFFICE OF THE DAILY PLANET...

A WEIRD ARMORED VEHICLE JUST ROBBED GOTHAM BANK AND IS LEAVING THE CITY, CLARK! **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** ARE HOT ON ITS TRAIL!

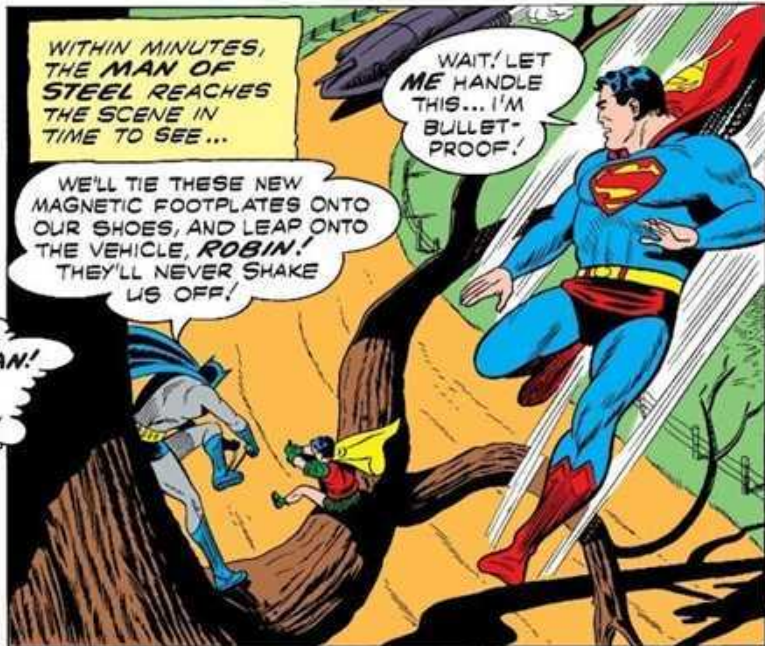
I'LL GET OUT THERE AT ONCE, CHIEF...

...AS **SUPERMAN**! THEY MAY NEED MY HELP!

WITHIN MINUTES, THE MAN OF STEEL REACHES THE SCENE IN TIME TO SEE...

WE'LL TIE THESE NEW MAGNETIC FOOTPLATES ONTO OUR SHOES, AND LEAP ONTO THE VEHICLE, **ROBIN**! THEY'LL NEVER SHAKE US OFF!

WAIT! LET ME HANDLE THIS... I'M BULLET-PROOF!



BUT JUST THEN...



LOOK!...A METEOR-- FLASHING TOWARD GOTHAM CITY! YOU'D BETTER INTERCEPT IT, **SUPERMAN**... WE CAN TACKLE THAT BABY BY OURSELVES!

THIS MINIATURE ACETYLENE TORCH, FROM MY UTILITY BELT, SHOULD SCORCH A HOLE THROUGH THE ROOF!

AND A HARMLESS BUT IRRITATING SMOKE BOMB, FROM MY BELT, SHOULD CHASE THEM OUT!



A CLEVER TACTIC--BUT THE CROOKS HAVE A PLAN OF THEIR OWN...



GREAT SCOTT! THEY'RE TRYING TO KILL **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** BY RAMMING INTO A TREE! I'D BETTER GRAB THIS METEOR AND HURL IT DOWN FAST!

AN INSTANT LATER...

WHAT PERFECT AIM!
SUPERMAN
SAVED OUR
LIVES WITH
THAT
METEOR!

SMASHH!

AND AS THE CRIMINALS COME
STUMBLING OUT...

WHAT A STRANGE-
LOOKING METEOR! MIND IF WE TAKE
IT TO THE **BAT-CAVE** AS A
TROPHY, **SUPERMAN**?

NOT
AT ALL,
BATMAN!

AFTERWARD,
AS CLARK
KENT TYPES
OUT THE
STORY OF
HIS FEAT...

ADD THIS TO
YOUR STORY,
CLARK...

THANKS,
CHIEF!

THE
BANKERS' ASSOCIATION
IS GIVING
SUPERMAN,
BATMAN AND
ROBIN A PLAQUE

NEXT TUESDAY, IN
METROPOLIS, FOR
CAPTURING THAT
CRIME-MOBILE!

SUPERMAN saves
two birds with one
stone - Crime fighting
dtd take unusual
meteor to BAT-CAVE.

SEVERAL DAYS LATER, AS THE
PRESENTATION CEREMONIES END...

WHAT'S
WRONG WITH
SUPERMAN?
HE SEEMS
DAZED...
CAN BE
SICK!

SO HE DOES...AND THERE'S
NO SIGN OF
KRYPTONITE
ABOUT!

WHAT
CAN BE
CAUSING
IT?

SUDDENLY...

WHY... H-HE'S
WHIRLING
AROUND--
SPINNING
SOME
SORT OF
COCOON!

MOMENTS LATER...

'GULP.'
H-HE'S
COMPLETELY
IMPRISONED
HIMSELF!
SHOULD I
BREAK IT
OPEN?

BETTER NOT...
WE DON'T
KNOW WHAT'S
HAPPENING,
AND IT MAY BE
DANGEROUS
TO INTERFERE!

SWIFTLY, THE NEWS SPREADS ACROSS THE NATION...

NOW YOU CAN SEE IT--THE COCOON **SUPERMAN** HAS WRAPPED HIMSELF IN--JUST AS A CATERPILLAR DOES BEFORE CHANGING TO A BUTTERFLY!

LIKE A CATERPILLAR? WHAT'S HE DRIVING AT?

MEANWHILE, AS POLICE STRAIN TO HOLD BACK A CURIOUS CROWD...

PLEASE...I MUST SEE **BATMAN**! THIS DOCUMENT...I FOUND IT WHILE DIGGING FOR INDIAN RELICS NEAR SMALLVILLE, YEARS AGO. IT COMES FROM THE ROCKET IN WHICH **SUPERMAN** ARRIVED AS A BABY!

ALL RIGHT--I'LL TALK TO HIM!

SEE?...IT'S WRITTEN IN THE LANGUAGE OF **KRYPTON**, **SUPERMAN**'S NATIVE PLANET, BY HIS FATHER. I NEVER REVEALED IT, FOR FEAR IT WOULD CAUSE UNNECESSARY WORRY!

YES--I RECOGNIZE THE SCRIPT...WHAT DOES IT SAY?

APPARENTLY, MANY **KRYPTONIANS**, BECAUSE OF SOME UNKNOWN FORCE, UNDERGO **STRANGE BODILY CHANGES**! **JOR-EL**, **SUPERMAN**'S FATHER, KNEW THAT HIS SON WOULD HAVE SUPER-POWERS ON EARTH...

...AND THAT THOSE POWERS WOULD DISAPPEAR IF **SUPERMAN** CHANGED! WHAT'S MORE, HE'D ACQUIRE **NEW** POWERS AND COMPLETELY FORGET HIS PAST! THIS IS **JOR-EL**'S SKETCH OF A CHANGED **KRYPTONIAN**!

GOLLY! WHAT DO YOU THINK, **BATMAN**?

WELL... **SUPERMAN** DOES COME FROM A WORLD WHICH WE KNOW VERY LITTLE ABOUT! I'M WORRIED, **ROBIN**--AND THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT YOU TO DO...

FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS, **ROBIN DEPARTS--**
AND RETURNS, AWHILE LATER, WITH...



A LONG, PENSEN VIGIL ENSUES--TILL FINALLY...



AND WHEN, AT LAST, THE FIGURE EMERGES...



THUS, THROUGH DESERTED STREETS, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** GO STALKING A CREATURE WHO WAS ONCE THEIR BEST FRIEND...

I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE IT... **SUPERMAN** NOT KNOWING US-- CHANGED INTO AN ALIEN!

WE MUST BELIEVE IT, BECAUSE IT'S HAPPENED... AND WE MUST CAPTURE HIM--FOR HIS OWN GOOD!



SILENTLY, THEY FOLLOW THEIR PREY, UNTIL...

THE **BAT-BOLO**? WHAT GOOD IS THAT? HE'D SNAP THE LINE EASILY!

NO...I THINK HE'S LOST HIS **SUPER-STRENGTH**! REMEMBER HOW HE STRUGGLED TO FREE HIMSELF FROM THE COCOON?



BATMAN'S ARM SNAKES FORWARD, AND...

YOU'VE GOT HIM! WITH HIS ARMS PINIONED, HE WON'T DARE FIRE HIS LIGHTNING, FOR FEAR OF HARMING HIMSELF!

YES, I'M SURE HE'S ALSO LOST HIS **INVULNERABILITY**! LET ME TALK TO HIM, **ROBIN**...



AND AS THE FEARFUL ALIEN RESPONDS TO **BATMAN'S** SOOTHING VOICE...

Y-YES, YOU DO SOUND LIKE A FRIEND! I-I DO NOT KNOW WHO I AM... CAN YOU HELP ME?

WE'LL GO TO THE **DAILY PLANET** OFFICE, AND SHOW YOU PICTURES OF YOURSELF AS YOU WERE--WORKING WITH **ROBIN** AND ME! THAT MAY RESTORE YOUR MEMORY!



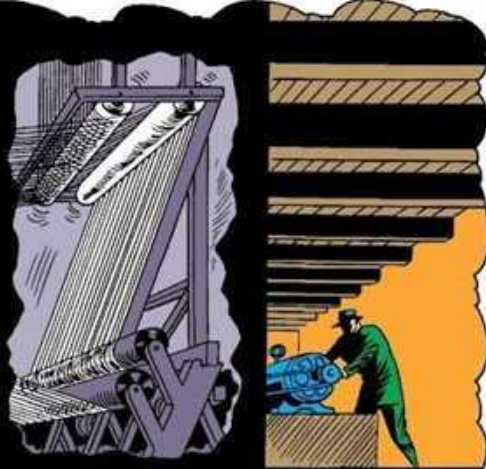
BEWARE, **BATMAN**... YOU ARE FALLING FOR A STRANGE AND SINISTER PLOT! FOR AT THIS VERY MOMENT, IN A NEARBY ISOLATED CAVERN...

THIS HUGE PIECE OF **KRYPTONITE** HAS MADE ME COMPLETELY POWERLESS! I HEARD THE MEN WHO LURED ME HERE, WITH PHONY CRIES OF HELP, SAY THEY HAD HIRED A CROOKED ACTOR TO IMPERSONATE ME, AND...





"...AND I HEARD THEM DESCRIBE HOW THEY CLEVERLY BUILT LOOMS INTO THE WALL OF A BUILDING... MAKING IT SEEM AS IF THAT IMPOSTOR WAS SPINNING A COCOON!"



THEN THEY SAID HE'D EMERGE TRANSFORMED, AND TRICK **BATMAN** INTO TAKING HIM TO THE **BAT-CAVE!** ONCE THAT WAS DONE, THEY'D BE ABLE TO TAKE OVER THE WHOLE CITY! I--I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND...



WHY ARE THEY GOING TO ALL THIS TROUBLE TO GET INTO THE **BAT-CAVE?** HOW WILL IT HELP THEM TAKE OVER? **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** MUSTN'T FALL FOR THEIR SCHEME!



YET EVEN AS **SUPERMAN** LIES ALONE, PUZZLED AND HELPLESS...

REMEMBER THIS CASE? OUR PERFECT TEAMWORK HELPED CAPTURE THOSE CROOKS IN **GIANTLAND!**



"AND DO YOU RECALL HOW YOU SAVED US FROM ONE OF THE **JOKER'S** TRAPS?"



"HOW ABOUT THE TIME YOU DANGLED US BY STRONG SILKEN ROPE, LIKE PUPPETS, SO WE COULD CATCH LUTHOR, WHO WAS WEARING A KRYPTONITE HELMET?"



BUT BEFORE THE IMPOSTOR CAN SPEAK...

HOLD EVERYTHING! I JUST GOT A FLASH... ARMED ROBBERY AT PARADE AMUSEMENT CENTER! YOU'D BETTER GO AT ONCE, BATMAN!

GO AHEAD... I'LL WRITE DOWN WHAT I HAVE TO SAY, IN CASE I LOSE MY MEMORY AGAIN! PAPER... WHERE'S PAPER?



SUDDENLY...

WH-WHAT AM I DOING HERE? WHO AM I? MUST FIND OUT!

GREAT CAESAR'S GHOST! HE'S LOST HIS MEMORY AGAIN! I CAN'T STOP HIM... WHAT'LL I TELL BATMAN AND ROBIN?



FOR HOURS, BATMAN AND ROBIN SHOW THE IMPOSTOR ONE PICTURE AFTER ANOTHER, TILL FINALLY...

BATMAN-- WAIT! IT'S ALL COMING BACK TO ME! I REMEMBER THE PAST PERFECTLY... AND I MUST TELL YOU SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT-- ASK YOU A FAVOR!

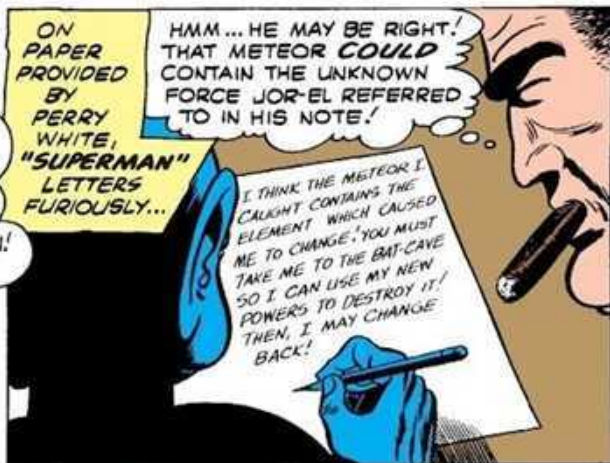
OF COURSE... ASK ANYTHING YOU WANT, OLD FRIEND!



ON PAPER PROVIDED BY PERRY WHITE, "SUPERMAN" LETTERS FURIOUSLY...

HMM... HE MAY BE RIGHT! THAT METEOR COULD CONTAIN THE UNKNOWN FORCE JOR-EL REFERRED TO IN HIS NOTE!

I THINK THE METEOR I CAUGHT CONTAINS THE ELEMENT WHICH CAUSED ME TO CHANGE! YOU MUST TAKE ME TO THE BAT-CAVE SO I CAN USE MY NEW POWERS TO DESTROY IT! THEN, I MAY CHANGE BACK!



IN THE MEANTIME, AT PARADE AMUSEMENT CENTER...



HURRY, ROBIN... BEFORE THEY REACH THEIR 'COPTER! I WANT TO GET BACK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

AS BATMAN AND ROBIN SWING OUT ON THEIR BAT-ROPES...



LATER, BACK AT THE DAILY PLANET...

HE WROTE THIS NOTE, THEN LEFT... AFTER LOSING HIS MEMORY AGAIN!

HMM-- VERY INTERESTING... WE'LL HAVE TO FIND HIM AT ONCE!



AFTER A QUICK CRUISE OF THE SURROUNDING STREETS...

THERE HE IS! COME, SUPERMAN... I'LL TAKE YOU TO THE BAT-CAVE, AS YOU ASKED!

I WILL GO WITH YOU!



PRESENTLY, IN AN UNDERGROUND CAVERN ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF GOTHAM CITY...

PSST... WHAT ARE YOU DOING, BATMAN? THIS ISN'T THE BAT-CAVE!

I KNOW... AND THIS MAN ISN'T SUPERMAN! I WANTED TO GET HIM ALONE, OFF-GUARD!



NEXT INSTANT, BATMAN'S FIST LASHES OUT, AND...

NOW, TELL ME WHAT YOUR GAME IS, OR-- OWW! MY FIST!



HA, HA: PLEASE FORGIVE ME, BATMAN, BUT I COULDN'T RESIST THIS JOKE, AFTER TAKING THAT IMPOSTOR'S PLACE! WHEN DID YOU DISCOVER HE WAS A PHONY?

WELL, AFTER ALL, SUPERMAN IS ALSO CLARK KENT...



...AND WHEN "SUPERMAN" SAID HE REMEMBERED THE PAST PERFECTLY, YET DIDN'T KNOW WHERE TO FIND PAPER IN CLARK'S DESK, IT WAS PRETTY CLEAR! BUT WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?... AND WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?

I KNOW VERY LITTLE... I WAS HELPLESS AWHILE AGO, UNTIL...

"...UNTIL MY SUPER-HEARING DETECTED A STREAM UNDER THE CAVE I WAS TRAPPED IN, AND I BURNED A DEEP HOLE WITH MY X-RAY VISION!"

AS I TURN OVER, THE KRYPTONITE WILL DROP INTO THAT UNDERGROUND STREAM, WHEN THE CURRENT WASHES IT AWAY, I'LL MAKE A DUMMY OF MYSELF-- SO THEY WON'T SUSPECT I'VE ESCAPED!

"THEN I FOUND THAT IMPOSTOR, AND..."

SUPERMAN! I...I'LL TELL YOU ALL I KNOW! SOME MEN PROMISED ME A FORTUNE IF I PULLED OFF THIS ACT, AND DESTROYED THE METEOR IN THE BAT-CAVE! I HAVEN'T SEEN THEM SINCE I AGREED!

RIGHT NOW, YOU'RE GOING TO JAIL, WHILE I TAKE YOUR PLACE!

THESE GADGETS, WHICH GAVE THE IMPOSTOR "NEW" POWERS, ARE UNLIKE ANYTHING I'VE EVER SEEN! SURE WISH I KNEW THE CRIMINALS' MOTIVES, THOUGH!

THERE'S ONE WAY OF FINDING OUT...

KRAAK

THE PURPOSE OF THE PLAN IS TO GET THAT METEOR DESTROYED, RIGHT? WELL, LET'S GET RID OF IT... THEN WE'LL SEE WHO'S BEHIND THIS-- AND WHY!

OF COURSE... WE'LL GO TO THE BAT-CAVE AT ONCE!

SOON...

I DON'T KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN THIS IS GONE, BUT AT LEAST, WHOEVER THOUGHT UP THIS PLOT WILL COME INTO THE OPEN, AND WE'LL KNOW WHAT WE'RE FACING!

CAREFUL, **SUPERMAN**... YOU MAY BE DOOMING YOURSELF FOR SURE! FOR AT THIS VERY MOMENT, IN THE HIDEOUT OF MIDGE MARTIN, NOTORIOUS GANG CHIEF, IS A REAL ALIEN!

HA, HA! **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** ARE SURE TO FALL FOR MY SCHEME! WHAT A SURPRISE FOR THEM WHEN THEY DO!

YOU SURE WERE LUCKY TO FIND ME WHEN YOU LANDED ON EARTH IN YOUR SPACE SHIP, KHALEX!

BAH! THAT WASN'T LUCK... IT WAS **BRAINS**! WHEN I ESCAPED FROM PRISON IN MY HOME PLANET...

"...I SPENT DAYS SPYING ON EARTH OVER MY VISISCREEN, WHILE TRAVELING THROUGH SPACE!"

BEFORE LANDING, I'LL HAVE TO DISPOSE OF THAT **SUPERMAN** CHARACTER... AND FROM WHAT I'VE SEEN, **KRYPTONITE** WILL DO THE TRICK! I'LL PICK SOME UP IN SPACE, AND ALSO LOCATE AN EARTH CRIMINAL WHO CAN HELP ME TAKE OVER!

"BUT JUST AFTER LANDING, I HAD A SETBACK--IN THE FORM OF THAT UNUSUAL METEOR, WHICH CONTAINED..."

GALGOLEX! THE ONE SUBSTANCE THAT ROBS ME OF MY SUPER-POWERS! IT'S LIKE **KRYPTONITE** TO **SUPERMAN**... ONLY 1,000 TIMES STRONGER! SO LONG AS IT'S ANYWHERE ON EARTH, I'M POWERLESS!

HOWEVER, WHEN I READ THAT IT HAD BEEN TAKEN TO THE **BAT-CAVE**, IT WAS EASY FOR ME TO FORM A PERFECT PLAN! THE PHONY **KRYPTONIAN** MESSAGE I MADE UP, PLUS SOME GADGETS FROM MY WORLD, MADE "**SUPERMAN'S**" TRANSFORMATION REALISTIC!

ALL OF A SUDDEN...

LOOK! MY SUPER-POWERS ARE BACK! **BATMAN**

AND **ROBIN** MUST HAVE FALLEN FOR THE STORY THAT DESTROYING THE METEOR MIGHT RESTORE **SUPERMAN** TO NORMAL! LET'S GO, BOYS!

SOON, IN
DOWNTOWN
GOTHAM
CITY...

START HELPING
YOURSELVES!
THE ONLY PERSON
WHO CAN BOTHER
US NOW IS
SUPERMAN--
AND WE KNOW
WHERE **HE** IS!



DO YOU?
GUESS
AGAIN!

WH-WHAT?
HE'S FREE...
AND MY **FLAMING
VISION** DOESN'T
BOTHER HIM
A BIT!

RIGHT...
BUT THIS
STEEL
GIRDER
OUGHT
TO KEEP
YOU
OUT OF
ANY MORE
MISCHIEF!



BAH! I'M JUST AS INVULNERABLE AS
YOU, **SUPERMAN**! YOU'D BETTER GET
BATMAN AND **ROBIN** TO LEAVE
MY FRIENDS ALONE...

... OR I'LL SHATTER
THE WHOLE CITY WITH
MY **VIBRATING VISION**!

HA, HA! YOU SHOULD
NEVER HAVE
DESTROYED THAT
METEOR,
SUPERMAN!



BUT AN INSTANT LATER, THE POWERFUL
ALIEN SLUMPS BACK, AND...

MY SUPER-POWERS...
DRAINING AWAY! I...
I DON'T
UNDERSTAND!

IT'S SIMPLE ENOUGH! I GOT
RID OF THAT **GALGOLEX**
BY TOSSING IT FAR INTO
SPACE SO THAT I'D DISCOVER
WHO WANTED IT DESTROYED,
AND WHY!

BUT I THREW IT UP
AT SUCH AN ANGLE
THAT IT WOULD FALL
BACK TO EARTH
AGAIN! I'M
GETTING IT
NOW!

AND
WE'RE
GETTING
YOU!



SOON... WITH THE
METEOR IN
ONE HAND AND YOU IN
THE OTHER, I'LL HAVE NO
TROUBLE RETURNING YOU
TO PRISON ON YOUR HOME
PLANET, **KHALEX!**

AND WE'LL TAKE
THIS BUNCH TO
JAIL -- **HERE!**
SEE YOU BACK
AT THE
BAT-CAVE!



AND WHEN THE THREE FRIENDS FINALLY REJOIN
EACH OTHER...

WHY... WHERE'D
YOU GET THAT
PICTURE,
SUPERMAN?

IT'S A NEW TROPHY FOR THE
BAT-CAVE... THE REWARD
FOR CAPTURING **KHALEX**...
A PICTURE OF THE POLICE
CHIEF ON HIS NATIVE PLANET!



13
The
End

WORLD'S
FINEST
COMICS



WORLD'S FINEST

COMICS

SUPERMAN
and **BATMAN**
BATTLE THE AMAZING
DUPLICATE
MAN!"

GREAT SCOTT!
A CRIMINAL
WHO CAN SPLIT
IN TWO AT WILL!



YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES

SUPERMAN
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

and

BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-

IN ONE
ADVENTURE
Together!

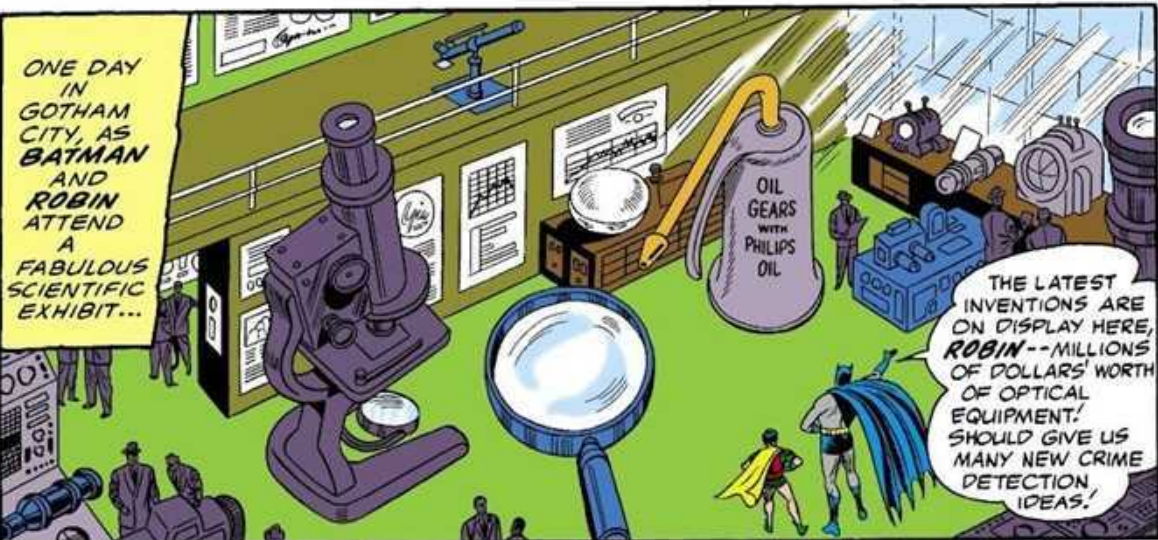
WE WENT
OFF THE
ROOF
TOGETHER,
BATMAN,
BUT I'M
GOING
BACK
UP!

BATMAN!...
PLUNGING TO
THE PAVEMENT!

WAS HE ONE MAN OR
TWO? AND WHAT STRANGE
POWER ENABLED HIM TO
STYMIE EVEN **BATMAN**,
ROBIN AND **SUPERMAN**?
YOU'LL LEARN ALL THE
STARTLING ANSWERS
IN THIS TALE OF...

**THE
DUPLICATE
MAN**

ONE DAY
IN
GOTHAM
CITY, AS
BATMAN
AND
ROBIN
ATTEND
A
FABULOUS
SCIENTIFIC
EXHIBIT...



THE LATEST
INVENTIONS ARE
ON DISPLAY HERE,
ROBIN--MILLIONS
OF DOLLARS' WORTH
OF OPTICAL
EQUIPMENT!
SHOULD GIVE US
MANY NEW CRIME
DETECTION
IDEAS!

JUST THEN...
BATMAN--LOOK!
THAT COSTUMED MAN...
HE'S TRYING TO
STEAL A VALUABLE
TELESCOPE!

BUT AS A STRONG SILKEN **BAT-ROPE**
GOES SNAKING OVER THE BALUSTRADE...



DON'T MOVE,
BATMAN!
THIS INVENTION
OF **MINE**
PRODUCES
VIBRATIONS
THAT CAN SHATTER
EVERY PIECE OF
GLASS IN THE
PLACE!

OH, OH ...
WE CAN'T RISK
HAVING THE
EXHIBITS
DESTROYED!

INSTANTLY,
ROBIN
LURCHES
FORWARD,
AND...



YOU
CAN
TAKE
HIM NOW,
BATMAN!

NICE GOING,
ROBIN! YOU TURNED
THAT MIRROR AT JUST
THE RIGHT ANGLE TO
REFLECT THE SUNLIGHT
INTO HIS EYES AND
MOMENTARILY BLIND
HIM!

OFF!

AS THE TWO MEN
GRAPPLE, HOWEVER...

WHAT--? A **TWIN**
OF THAT CROOK,
STEALING A
VALUABLE LENS!

BUT WHEN **ROBIN** LEAPS
TOWARD THE SECOND BANDIT...

IN A HURRY,
EH? THIS **OIL**
SHOULD SPEED
YOU UP!

I'LL COME RIGHT
DOWN AND--**WAIT!**
THE **TWIN**--TOUCHING
THOSE **KNOBS** TOGETHER--
GLOWING STRANGELY...

OWW!
TWISTED MY
ANKLE!

THEN, AS
BATMAN STARES INCREDULOUSLY, AN
ASTOUNDING PHENOMENON OCCURS...

...AND THE ONE I TIED UP--
DEMATERIALIZING...TURNING
INTO A **WRAITH** WITHOUT
SUBSTANCE! MY HAND GOES
RIGHT THROUGH HIM!

HA, HA!
YOU'LL NEVER CATCH
ME, BATMAN! WITH
MY ABILITY TO BECOME
THE **DUPLICATE MAN**,
I'LL STEAL THE WORLD'S
GREATEST INVENTIONS,
AND BECOME THE
MOST POWERFUL
CRIMINAL ON
EARTH!

NOW HE'S MERGING
INTO THE OTHER!
THAT CROOK HAS
DISCOVERED HOW TO
PROJECT A **SOLID**
CARBON COPY OF
HIMSELF, AND THEN
BLEND INTO ONE
PERSON AGAIN!

EVEN AS **BATMAN** SWINGS INTO PURSUIT, A REPORTER PHONES IN THE FANTASTIC STORY-- SO THAT MINUTES LATER, AT THE OFFICE OF THE **DAILY PLANET**, IN METROPOLIS...

...AND THAT'S THE REPORT, CLARK! GET OVER TO GOTHAM CITY--FAST--AND CHECK IT OUT!

SURE THING, CHIEF!

I'LL GO REAL FAST-- AS **SUPERMAN**!

MEANWHILE, WHERE **BATMAN** DRAWS CLOSE TO HIS QUARRY...

OH, OH... HE'S PRESSING HIS FINGERS TOGETHER AND SPLITTING IN TWO AGAIN!

AS **BATMAN** ROUNDS A CORNER, HOWEVER...

WH-WHICH SHOULD I CHASE?

IF I GET THE ONE WITH THE LOOT, HE'LL BE FORCED TO DEMATERIALIZER AND LEAVE THAT VALUABLE LENS BEHIND! BUT--WHICH ONE'S GOT IT? I'LL HAVE TO GUESS...

I GUESSED WRONG! HE MUST HAVE MERGED INTO THE **OTHER** ONE, AROUND THE **OTHER** CORNER! I'D BETTER GET BACK TO **ROBIN**... THERE'S NO POINT IN KEEPING THIS UP ALL DAY!

AND BY THE TIME HE RETURNS TO THE SCIENCE EXHIBIT...

AH--I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE, **SUPERMAN**! THIS IS SURE A JOB FOR THE TWO OF US!

THE **THREE** OF US, YOU MEAN! **SUPERMAN** CHECKED MY ANKLE WITH HIS **X-RAY VISION**... ALL I HAVE IS A SLIGHT SPRAIN! A LITTLE TAPE, AND I'LL BE AS GOOD AS NEW!

SHORTLY, IN THE **BAT-CAVE**, THE TRIO HOLDS A COUNCIL OF WAR...

SINCE HE PLANS TO STEAL INVENTIONS, WE'LL DRAW UP A LIST OF ALL EXPERIMENTAL LABORATORIES AND EXHIBITIONS, AND KEEP THEM UNDER CONSTANT SURVEILLANCE!

GOOD IDEA... WE'LL EACH COVER A DIFFERENT ONE!

NEXT MORNING, AS A PRIVATE EXHIBIT TAKES PLACE BEHIND THE LOCKED DOORS OF A WELL-KNOWN RESEARCH INSTITUTE...

A RAY THAT **ABSORBS LIGHT** AND COMPLETELY **BLACKS OUT** ANY AREA IT'S AIMED AT! I DIDN'T BELIEVE IT, WHEN I READ ABOUT IT IN THE PAPERS!



...TO BURN A HOLE THROUGH THE ROOF! NOW TO GET THAT **BLACKOUT RAY**... IT WILL CERTAINLY BE A VALUABLE ADDITION TO MY CRIMINAL ARSENAL!



MEANWHILE, AS **BATMAN** MAKES HIS ROUND OF LABORATORIES...

A HELICOPTER ON THE ROOF OF THE **NEW AGE RESEARCH INSTITUTE**... I'D BETTER SWING UP THERE AND CHECK IT!



AT THAT MOMENT, ON THE ROOF...

THIS LENS I STOLE YESTERDAY CAN FOCUS ENOUGH HEAT...



ATTENTION! TIE THAT MACHINE TO MY ROPE, OR I'LL USE MY LENS TO SET THIS WHOLE PLACE ABLAZE!

THE **DUPLICATE MAN** EVERYONE'S BEEN TALKING ABOUT! W-W-E'D BETTER DO AS HE SAYS!

SO-- WE MEET AGAIN!

AND JUST AS HE REACHES THE ROOFTOP...

A PLEASURE, **BATMAN!** THIS IS MY CHANCE TO GET RID OF YOUR BUNGLING INTERFERENCE FOR GOOD!



TRY IT, MR. **DUPLICATE MAN**... IN ONE MOMENT, YOU'RE GOING TO **SEE DOUBLE!**

HA, HA! I ADMIRE A MAN WHO CAN DIE WITH A JEST ON HIS LIPS!

THE STRANGELY GARBED CRIMINAL'S LEAP CARRIES HIM FORWARD FURIOUSLY, AND...

OOF! YOU FOOL!... WE'LL BOTH DIE!

NO...WE'LL HURTLE OFF TOGETHER-- BUT I'LL **COME BACK!**

HA, HA! PICK A NICE SOFT PLACE TO LAND, WHILE MY **DUPLICATE**, ON THE ROOF, SUMMONS ME BACK!

GULP! TH-THIS IS THE END FOR ME!

BUT MILES AWAY, **TELESCOPIC VISION** DETECTS...

BATMAN!... PLUNGING TO THE PAVEMENT!

AND WITH A BURST OF **SUPER-SPEED**...

SUPERMAN! WHEW! WAS I EVER GLAD TO SEE YOU!

JUST LEAVE ME HERE AND GET THE **DUPLICATE MAN!** HE'S IN THAT COPTER!

SHOULDN'T BE HARD! ONE PUFF OF **SUPER-BREATH**...



...AND THE PROPELLER IS BLOWN RIGHT OFF!

LAST STOP,
DUPLICATE
MAN!



BUT... HA, HA!
I ALREADY SPLIT
IN TWO, BEFORE
GETTING INTO THE
COPTER-- AND I'VE
SIGNALLED MY OTHER
SELF, WHO'S HIDING
WITH THE LOOT!



HIS OTHER
SELF CAN BE
ANYWHERE
BY NOW! HE
CERTAINLY
IS ELUSIVE...
HOW WILL
WE **EVER**
CATCH
HIM?



INDEED, SOME HOURS LATER,
IN A CAVERN THAT IS LEAD-LINED
AND SAFE FROM SUPERMAN'S
X-RAY VISION...

I SEE THAT BATMAN
WAS SAVED! HA, HA! WITH THE THREE
OF THEM GANGING UP ON THE TWO OF
ME, I'LL HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT
NARROWING THE ODDS!



THUS, THAT SAME EVENING,
NEWSPAPERS CARRY A
STARTLING HEADLINE...

DUPLICATE MAN STEALS
SUPER MAGNET IN METROPOLIS!
OTHER SELF SIGHTED IN GOTHAM
CITY ABOUT SAME TIME!

I WAS AFRAID OF THIS!
UNTIL NOW, HE'S WORKED
ONLY IN GOTHAM CITY! IF
HE'S SPLIT UP, WE'LL HAVE
TO DO LIKEWISE ... WITH
ME IN METROPOLIS
AND YOU TWO
HERE!

YOU'RE RIGHT,
SUPERMAN...
WE HAVE NO
CHOICE!

NEXT DAY, IN
METROPOLIS...

GENERAL
EZEKIEL
HOOKER
CIVIL WAR
HERO

SEE THE AMAZING TV
CAMERA THAT CAN
TRANSMIT AT ANY DISTANCE!
DOORS OPEN FROM 3:00
TO 4:00

EXTRA GUARDS
WERE THROWN
ABOUT THIS
BUILDING, IN CASE
THE **DUPLICATE**
MAN SHOWS
UP!

BUT EXTRA GUARDS SEEM
OF NO AVAIL, WHEN...

BUT AS THE TWOFOLD FELON LEAVES WITH
HIS LOOT, HE IS UNAWARE THAT SOMEONE IS
WATCHING HIS EVERY MOVE...

HA, HA! THESE HARMLESS
FUMES WILL PUT EVERYONE
TO SLEEP TEMPORARILY...
THEN THAT INVENTION WILL
BE MINE! WHAT A
GADGET TO USE
FOR CRIME!

I FIGURED HE'D SHOW
UP HERE... THIS BRONZE
COATING MAKES A
PERFECT DISGUISE! NOW,
WITH **TELESCOPIC** AND
X-RAY VISION, I
CAN KEEP HIM
IN SIGHT!

WHILE IN
GOTHAM CITY...

THAT
EXHIBIT
SHOULD
LURE THE
DUPLICATE
MAN!

NOW!
ON EXHIBIT FROM 3:00 TO 4:00
THE MACHINE THAT EXERTS
ENOUGH AIR PRESSURE TO
BLAST THROUGH A STEEL WALL

YES... AND BY
ARRANGING TO HAVE **THIS**
INVENTION AND THE ONE
IN **METROPOLIS** DISPLAYED
AT THE EXACT SAME TIME,
WE HAVE A CHANCE TO
CAPTURE BOTH OF
THEM!

THERE HE
IS!

MACHINE EXERTS
ENOUGH AIR PRESSURE TO
BLAST THROUGH A STEEL WALL

GOOD... I'LL CONTACT
SUPERMAN AT
ONCE, VIA **WRIST-
RADIO**!

SECONDS LATER, IN METROPOLIS...

WE'VE
SIGHTED
OUR MAN!
IF YOU HAVE
YOURS
IN SIGHT,
SIGNAL
BACK!

PERFECT TIMING!
WE SHOULD HAVE
HIM NOW!



BUT YOU'RE
WRONG,
SUPERMAN!
FOR AT THIS
VERY
MOMENT, IN
GOTHAM CITY...

RIGHT... AND
THERE'S NO USE
SENDING OUT A
MENTAL S.O.S.
THIS TIME!
**BATMAN AND
ROBIN** HAVE
YOUR OTHER
SELF
CORNERED
IN GOTHAM
CITY!

S-SUPERMAN!



HA, HA!
NOW YOU SEE
ME, NOW YOU DON'T!
YOU TWO CAN STAY
IN THE DARK, WHILE
I PICK UP MY
OTHER SELF!





I'LL JUST ROUND THIS CORNER, REMOVE MY COSTUME IN MY GETAWAY CAR, AND MAKE A PERFECT ESCAPE!

CAN'T SEE! WH-WHERE IS HE?



HE'S MELTED AWAY! BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER, WITH **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** ABOUT TO CATCH THE OTHER ONE!

BUT WHEN SUPERMAN APPEARS IN GOTHAM CITY, AND HEARS WHAT HAS HAPPENED...

I DIDN'T SEE A SIGN OF HIM WHEN I FLEW HERE! HE MUST HAVE HAD A CLEVERLY PLANNED GETAWAY!

I'M SURE OF THAT! **NOW** WHAT WILL WE DO? HE'LL BE MORE CAUTIOUS THAN EVER!



IN THE MEANTIME...



I'VE BEEN THINKING OVER YOUR PLAN, **BATMAN**, AND I CAN'T FIND A FLAW IN IT! WE'LL START TOMORROW!



BATMAN'S SUSPICION IS CORRECT-- FOR IN THE DUPLICATE MAN'S HIDEOUT...

THAT WAS A CLOSE CALL! FROM NOW ON, ONE OF ME WILL ALWAYS STAY **HERE!** SINCE THEY DON'T KNOW WHERE THIS CAVE IS, AND MY OTHER SELF CAN MERGE WITH ME ALMOST INSTANTLY, THEY'LL **NEVER** GET ME!

WHAT IS THE TRIO PLANNING? IT BEGINS, THE FOLLOWING DAY, WITH AN ASTOUNDING EXHIBIT TO THE PRESS...

YOU SAY, YOU CAN SIT IN THAT MACHINE, MOVE A LEVER, AND BE WHISKED TO ANY SPOT YOU CHOOSE?

I SURE CAN! ALL I HAVE TO DO IS LOCATE THE SPOT ON THAT GIANT MAP, PRESS THE STARTER... AND I'LL BE **TELEPORTED** THERE INSTANTLY!



OKAY... SUPPOSE YOU--UH--TELEPORT YOURSELF TO MARKET AND VINE STREETS! I'LL PHONE A FRIEND AND TELL HIM TO WAIT FOR YOU THERE!

IF ONLY HE KNEW I WAS SUPERMAN-- AND THAT I PLAN TO "TELEPORT" MYSELF AT SUPER-SPEED!

A LITTLE LATER...

HE ADJUSTED THE LEVER AND--HUH? HE--HE'S GONE... SO FAST, I COULDN'T EVEN SEE HIM!

WHOOSH

SO, WHEN THE EVENING PAPERS HIT THE STREETS...

DAILY PLANET
UNKNOWN SCIENTIST INVENTS TELEPORTATION MACHINE

WELL, WELL! WITH A MACHINE LIKE THAT, I'D BE ABSOLUTELY UNTOUCHABLE! I'LL SEND ONE OF MYSELVES TO GET IT, WHILE THE OTHER STAYS HIDDEN HERE! BUT FIRST, I'LL GET SUPERMAN OUT OF THE WAY!

SOON...

THIS IS WHERE THE PAPERS SAID THAT TELEPORTER IS KEPT! I'LL BLAST MY WAY IN, SET THE LEVERS FOR MY HIDE-OUT, AND BE GONE WITH IT IN A SPLIT SECOND!

VRROOMM!

EARLY NEXT MORNING, OUTSIDE METROPOLIS PRISON...

WHEEEEEEEEEE
VRROOOMM

HA, HA! A GOOD JAILBREAK SHOULD KEEP SUPERMAN BUSY... AND WITH BATMAN AND ROBIN IN GOTHAM CITY, WATCHING FOR MY OTHER SELF, I HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT!

MEANWHILE...

THIS DITCH AROUND THE PRISON WILL HEM IN THE CONVICTS... THEN I'LL BE ABLE TO DEAL WITH THE DUPLICATE MAN!

WHEEEEEEEEEE

AND WHERE THE **DUPLICATE MAN** PULLS THE
LEVER OF THE STRANGE MECHANISM...

EH...? THAT COLORED
WHEEL--POPPED UP...
SPINNING... TURNING...
COLORS SHIFTING...
WHIRRING... MAKING
ME... DROWSY...
TIRED...

THEN, AS A HIDDEN TAPE RECORDING
DRONES A MESSAGE...

PRESS YOUR FINGERS
TOGETHER... TOGETHER...
FINGERS... TOGETHER...

IT'S WORKING!
HE'S
HYPNOTIZED...
SUMMONING
HIS OTHER SELF
HERE...

BRASS-KNOBBED HANDS GLOW, AND
NEXT INSTANT...

THEY'RE MERGING!
GET HIS RIGHT
HAND, **ROBIN**...
QUICK!

SWIFTLY, EACH CAPED FIGURE PINIONS
A HAND, AS A THIRD COSTUMED
CRIME-FIGHTER APPEARS...

GOOD WORK, BOYS! WE'LL
TAKE OFF THOSE GADGETS
AND GET HIM TO JAIL! IF,
AS I SUSPECT, HE SET THE
INDICATOR FOR HIS
HIDEOUT, WE CAN TELL
FROM THE MAP WHERE
IT'S LOCATED!

PRESENTLY...

MY HUNCH
WAS RIGHT...
ALL HIS LOOT
IS HERE!

AND I HAVE HIS
NOTES! THEY'RE SO
COMPLICATED, HE
COULDN'T POSSIBLY
HAVE MEMORIZED THEM!
WE'LL DESTROY THEM...
BY THE TIME HE GETS
OUT OF JAIL, YEARS FROM
NOW, HE WON'T LIVE LONG
ENOUGH TO MAKE
ANOTHER **DUPLICATOR**!

AND SO, THAT EVENING...

WHAT A TRIO! NO ONE CAN
EVER DUPLICATE THEM--
OR THEIR FEATS!

DAILY PLANET
SUPERMAN, BATMAN
AND ROBIN CATCH
DUPLICATE MAN

12
THE
END



FEB.
NO. 107

WORLD'S FINEST

COMICS

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE



AUTHORITY

**"SECRET of the
TIME CREATURE!"**



GREAT SCOTT,
BATMAN! EVEN
SUPERMAN IS
BOUNCING OFF
THE FORCE-WALL
AROUND THAT
CREATURE!



YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES

SUPERMAN
REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

and

BATMAN
AND
ROBIN

IN ONE
ADVENTURE
Together!

THE CREATURE OF
ENERGY LAY DORMANT
THROUGH THE CENTURIES--
UNTIL IT SUDDENLY AWOKE AND
MENACED THE EARTH! SO WHILE
SUPERMAN SEARCHED FOR A
WAY TO FIGHT THE CREATURE IN
THE PRESENT, BATMAN AND
ROBIN SEARCHED THE PAST
FOR A WEAPON AGAINST THE
CREATURE--A FANTASTIC
WEAPON THAT CONTAINED
THE KEY TO...

THE SECRET OF THE TIME- CREATURE

GREAT SCOTT!
EVEN
SUPERMAN
IS BOUNCING
OFF THE
FORCE-WALL
THE CREATURE
HAS PUT
ABOUT
ITSELF!



ON AN ISLAND IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA, A TERRIFIED FARMER BABBLES A STRANGE STORY AT AN ARMY CAMP...

SOON AFTER, CAISSONS ROLL TO THE HILLSIDE, AND THEN SUDDENLY, A FANTASTIC CREATURE REARS BEFORE THEM...

IT HEAVED UP OUT OF THE DEAD VOLCANO--I FIRED MY RIFLE AT IT, BUT THE BULLETS MELTED BEFORE THEY HIT IT! I TELL YOU, IT'S SOME KIND OF **MONSTER!**

EASY, MISTER! WHATEVER IT IS, IT CAN'T STAND UP AGAINST CANNON-FIRE!

THERE! HAVE YOU EVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT BEFORE?

MEN--START FIRING! BLAST THAT THING APART! WIPE IT OUT!

CANNONS ROAR-- BUT THE SHELLS EXPLODE IN MID-AIR!

BAM!
BAM!

WHA-AAT? THE CREATURE HAS SURROUNDED ITSELF WITH SOME KIND OF PROTECTIVE AURA THAT WARDS OFF THE SHELLS!

FORWARD STRIDES THE CREATURE, INDESTRUCTIBLE, LIKE THE APPROACH OF DOOM!

LATER, IN THE NEWS-PAPER OFFICES OF THE DAILY PLANET IN METROPOLIS, REPORTER CLARK KENT HEARS THE NEWS...

I HOPE **SUPERMAN** LEARNS ABOUT THIS BEFORE THAT CREATURE GOES ON A RAMPAGE...

HE ALREADY HAS--AND I OUGHT TO KNOW--SINCE I'M **SUPERMAN!**

IT WOULD TAKE SUPER-HUMAN POWERS TO STOP THAT THING! WE'LL HAVE TO SEND FOR **SUPERMAN!**

AND IN THE SECRET **BATMAN** HEAD-QUARTERS, BENEATH THE HOME OF SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON IN GOTHAM CITY...

...OUR FRIENDS ACROSS THE OCEAN KNOW AS SOON AS **SUPERMAN** HEARS THEIR PLIGHT, HE WILL COME TO THEIR AID!

DICK, INTO OUR COSTUMES! MAYBE WE CAN GIVE **SUPERMAN** A HAND FIGHTING THAT CREATURE!

SOON AFTER, THE BATPLANE ZOOMS TOWARD THE BESIEGED MEDITERRANEAN ISLAND, WITH THE MAN OF STEEL LEADING THE WAY...

FROM THE DESCRIPTION OF THE CREATURE, IT SOUNDS AS THOUGH IT CAN GIVE EVEN SUPERMAN A TOUGH FIGHT!



LIKE A THUNDERBOLT SUPERMAN'S FIST STRIKES THE CREATURE, BUT...

I ONLY STAGGERED IT! BUT MAYBE I CAN REALLY KAYO IT WITH ANOTHER BLOW!



BUT AS SUPERMAN AGAIN HURTTLES AT HIS BIZARRE OPPONENT...

UHH! IT'S PUT UP THE PROTECTIVE AURA-- NOW THAT IT KNOWS I'M DANGEROUS! I CAN'T GET THROUGH TO IT!



LATER...

THE PROTECTIVE AURA THAT THE OFFICER DESCRIBED IS NOT AROUND IT NOW! IT PROBABLY FEELS IT DOESN'T NEED PROTECTION AGAINST A HUMAN BEING!



AS SUPERMAN TRIES TO THINK OF ANOTHER PLAN OF ATTACK, BATMAN AND ROBIN SUDDENLY HEAR SOMETHING...

TWEEF-EEF-TWEEF

LISTEN! SOME KIND OF WHISTLING SOUND... COMING FROM THAT CAVE!

MAYBE FROM ANOTHER KIND OF CREATURE! LET'S CHECK!



UPON ENTERING THE CAVE, THEY FIND...

THE SOUND'S
COMING FROM
THAT THING!
BUT WHAT
IS IT?

I--I DON'T KNOW!
IT'S LIKE NOTHING
I'VE EVER SEEN
BEFORE ON EARTH!



SUDDENLY, THE PRISM ATOP THE
APPARATUS BEGINS TO GLOW, AND THEN
A FANTASTIC THING HAPPENS...

GREETINGS, EARTH-PEOPLE! I
SPEAK TO YOU FROM A RECORDING
MADE CENTURIES AGO--MY VOICE
IS ACTUALLY A **TELEPATHIC**
MESSAGE TRANSMITTED
TO YOUR BRAIN...



"I ONCE LIVED ON ANOTHER PLANET IN A
NEARBY SOLAR SYSTEM-- WHERE ONE
DAY OUR ASTRONOMERS OBSERVED AN
UNUSUAL PHENOMENON..."

LOOK! THAT STRANGE FIRE-
BALL HAS EXPLODED-- AND
PARTS OF IT ARE HURLING OFF IN
ALL DIRECTIONS!

OUR
INSTRUMENTS
ARE TRACKING
THE PATH OF
THE PIECES AND
INDICATE THAT ONE OF
THEM WILL LAND ON
OUR PLANET!



"UPON LOCATING THE PIECE THAT HAD
FALLEN ON OUR PLANET, WE SAW THAT
IT WAS ALIVE!"

AMAZING! THE ALIEN
GASES FROM THAT
STRANGE FIREBALL
HAVE SPAWNED A
NEW TYPE OF
LIFE!



"AS THE THING GREW, IT SOON
BECAME A TERRIFYING MENACE
THAT BURNED ITS WAY THROUGH
OUR BEAUTIFUL CITIES..."

CAN
NOTHING
STOP
THAT
TERRIBLE
CREATURE?

OUR SCIENTISTS
ARE WORKING
NIGHT AND DAY
TO DEVISE A
WEAPON
AGAINST
IT!





"AT LONG LAST, OUR WEAPON WAS PERFECTED..."

LET US HOPE THAT OUR WEAPON IS SUCCESSFUL!

"UPON LANDING SECRETLY, WE HID FROM SIGHT OF TWO SOLDIERS OF THE TIME AS THEY PASSED BY..."

HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS? KING PHILIP OF MACEDONIA IS DEAD--ALEXANDER IS NOW KING!

WHEN THEY ARE OUT OF SIGHT, WE SHALL HIDE THIS WEAPON WHERE IT WILL REMAIN SAFE UNTIL IT IS NEEDED IN THE FUTURE...



FAREWELL, PEOPLE OF THIS PLANET! USE THE WEAPON AND DESTROY THE CREATURE BEFORE IT DESTROYS YOUR WORLD! FAREWELL...

ROBIN-- THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE! LET'S GET THAT WEAPON NOW!



"IT WAS-- AND AFTER DESTROYING THE CREATURE ON OUR PLANET, WE HUNTED DOWN THE CREATURES SPAWNED ON OTHER PLANETS, UNTIL WE CAME TO YOURS..."

THIS FINAL PIECE FELL INTO THAT VOLCANO'S FLAMING LAVA-- BUT THE GASES HAVE SOMEHOW BEEN CONTAINED!



STILL, CENTURIES FROM NOW, WHEN THE LAVA COOLS, THE PIECE MAY COME TO LIFE AND MENACE THIS PLANET! WE MUST LEAVE OUR WEAPON HERE FOR THE PLANET'S FUTURE PEOPLE TO DESTROY THE CREATURE!

"WE FOUND THIS CAVERN, AND HID THE WEAPON UNDER A METAL MARKER YOU WILL FIND ON THE FLOOR..."

THIS MACHINE IS ATTUNED TO THE WAVELENGTH OF THE ENERGY THE CREATURE WILL EMIT WHEN IT AWAKENS-- AND WILL SOUND A WARNING THAT WILL BRING FUTURE PEOPLE HERE TO LISTEN TO MY TELEPATHIC RECORDING TO THEM!



UNDER THE DUST OF CENTURIES, THEY SOON FIND THE MARKER, BUT...

THE CONTAINER IS EMPTY! THE WEAPON IS GONE!



SOMEONE IN THE PAST MUST HAVE UNCOVERED THE WEAPON AND TAKEN IT AWAY! THAT PERSON PROBABLY DIDN'T TAKE THE TELEPATHIC MACHINE BECAUSE IT WAS TOO HEAVY TO CARRY!

THAT WEAPON WAS OUR ONLY HOPE! IT'S UP TO **SUPERMAN** TO DESTROY THE CREATURE NOW!

LEAVING THE CAVERN, THEY HOPEFULLY WATCH **SUPERMAN** FLASHING BACK FROM THE NORTH POLE...



THE ICEBERG MELTED AROUND THE CREATURE! IF ONLY WE HAD THAT WEAPON--BUT IT'S GONE--LOST SOMEWHERE IN THE PAST!

ROBIN, I THINK I KNOW HOW WE CAN FIND IT!



CALLING SUPERMAN, BATMAN EXPLAINS...

THE TELEPATHIC MESSAGE MENTIONED PASSING SOLDIERS TALKING OF THE NEWLY CROWNED KING, ALEXANDER! **ROBIN** AND I CAN TRAVEL BACK TO THIS ISLAND DURING THAT TIME PERIOD, AND LOCATE THE WEAPON!

GOOD--AND, MEANWHILE, I'LL TRY TO STALL THE CREATURE!



LATER, BACK IN GOTHAM CITY, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** TELL THEIR PROBLEM TO THEIR OLD FRIEND PROFESSOR NICHOLS, WHO HAS HELPED THEM TIME-TRAVEL MANY TIMES BEFORE...

I'VE MADE SEVERAL IMPROVEMENTS ON MY TIME-MACHINE! NOW, BY PRESSING THIS BUTTON, YOU CAN RETURN TO THE PRESENT WHENEVER YOU'RE READY!



MOMENTS LATER, AFTER THE PLACE AND TIME DIALS HAVE BEEN SET...

WE'RE GOING BACK--BACK IN TIME!



AND THEN, SUDDENLY, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** FIND THEMSELVES IN A LAND OF THE PAST!

GOSH! WE'VE ARRIVED!

WE CAN'T WASTE TIME LOOKING AT THE SCENERY, **ROBIN**-- WE MUST GO TO THE CAVERN AND UNEARTH THE WEAPON AT ONCE!



RUSHING TO THE CAVERN, **BATMAN** SWIFTLY OPENS THE METAL MARKER, BUT...

THE CONTAINER--IT'S EMPTY! THAT MEANS THE WEAPON WAS DISCOVERED BY SOMEONE SHORTLY AFTER THE ALIENS BURIED IT HERE!

A WEAPON LIKE THAT COULDN'T BE CARRIED BY ANYONE WITHOUT BEING NOTICED! LET'S QUESTION PEOPLE IN THE CITY!



SOON AFTER, AS THEY APPROACH THE CITY...



GREAT SCOTT! THOSE CHARIOT HORSES ARE RUNNING WILD --AND THAT MAN HAS FALLEN RIGHT IN THEIR PATH!

AS IF SHOT FROM A CROSS-BOW, **BATMAN** HURTTLES AT THE STAMPEDING STEEDS...



TUGGING MIGHTILY AT THE BRIDLE, **BATMAN** FORCES THE STEEDS TO SWERVE...



HANGING ON, **BATMAN** SOON PULLS THE STEEDS TO A HALT, AND AFTERWARDS ...

O BRAVE ONE, I AM IN YOUR DEBT FOREVER!

OUR STRANGE COSTUMES MIGHT HAVE MADE PEOPLE HERE SUSPICIOUS OF US--BUT THIS GRATEFUL MAN WILL ANSWER OUR QUESTIONS NOW!



RECALLING THE TELEPATHIC THOUGHT PICTURE OF THE WEAPON, BATMAN MAKES A SKETCH OF IT AND...

YES, I HAVE SEEN THAT STRANGE OBJECT. MARCUS, THE FARMER, SOLD IT YESTERDAY TO SETHY, CAPTAIN OF A MERCHANT SHIP THAT LEFT FOR EGYPT!

THAT MEANS THAT WE MUST GET PASSAGE ON ANOTHER SHIP BOUND FOR EGYPT AND CATCH UP WITH SETHY!



LATER, AT THE SEAPORT, BATMAN QUESTIONS THE OWNER OF A VESSEL...

I'VE HEARD YOU'RE BOUND FOR EGYPT! COULD YOU TAKE US AS PASSENGERS?

AYE--I WILL INDEED TAKE YOU...



...BUT NOT AS PASSENGERS! I AM SHORT TWO OARSMEN IN THE GALLEY-- AND YOU WILL TAKE THEIR PLACES!



SOON AFTER, THE VESSEL BEGINS ITS JOURNEY-- WITH TWO GALLEY SLAVES FROM THE FUTURE!

PULL!
PULL!



BATMAN, WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE!

NOT YET! WE'LL WAIT UNTIL THIS VESSEL REACHES EGYPT-- THEN WE'LL MAKE OUR MOVE!



SOON, AFTER THE GALLEY REACHES THE EGYPTIAN PORT, BATMAN SNEAKS A VIAL OF HIS UTILITY BELT, AND...

ONCE THIS ACID EATS THROUGH THE GALLEY CHAIN, WE'LL LEAD THE GALLEY SLAVES IN A MUTINY AGAINST THE CRUEL MASTER OF THIS SHIP.



MINUTES LATER--THE OPPRESSED GALLEY SLAVES REVOLT!



LATER, IN HIS PALACE, THE PHARAOH SUMMONS HIS COURT MAGICIANS...

WELL--WHAT MAKE YOU OF THIS STRANGE OBJECT?

NEVER HAVE WE SEEN SUCH A CURIOUS APPARATUS! WE MUST TAKE IT APART--AND THUS WE MAY LEARN WHAT IS ITS FUNCTION!



SUDDENLY, A CAPED FIGURE SWINGS DOWN FROM A WINDOW...

I GOT HERE JUST IN TIME! A FEW MINUTES LATER--AND THAT WEAPON WOULD HAVE BEEN DISMANTLED!

AIII! A MASKED INTRUDER-- COSTUMED LIKE A GIANT BAT!



HE IS TAKING THE STRANGE OBJECT! AFTER HIM!



IN THE COURTYARD BELOW, BATMAN LEAPS INTO A CHARIOT ROBIN HAS WAITING, AND THEY GALLOP AWAY TOWARDS THE DESERT BEYOND...

WE'VE GOT TO HIDE THE WEAPON SOMEWHERE-- AND FAST-- BEFORE THE PHARAOH'S SOLDIERS CATCH UP TO US! WE CAN'T TAKE IT BACK WITH US-- TIME-TRAVELING MIGHT RUIN ITS SENSITIVE MECHANISM.



LOOK-- THAT SMALL PYRAMID! NO ARCHAEOLOGIST OF OUR TIME HAS UNEARTHED IT-- PROBABLY BECAUSE OVER THE CENTURIES IT WILL BE COVERED BY SAND! THE WEAPON WOULD BE SAFELY HIDDEN IN THERE UNTIL WE RETURN TO OUR ERA!



LEAVING OFF, BATMAN HURRIEDLY PLACES THE WEAPON WITHIN THE PYRAMID--AND THEN HASTILY REJOINS ROBIN...

THE PHARAOH'S TROOPS HAVE SPOTTED US!

LUCKILY, THEY DIDN'T SEE ME RUN INTO THE TOMB! WE'VE GOT TO DRAW THEM AWAY SO THEY WON'T SUSPECT I'VE HIDDEN THE WEAPON INSIDE!



SOON AFTER, AS THE TROOPS ENCIRCLE THEM...

BATMAN-- HURRY--
GET US BACK
TO OUR TIME!
PRESS THE
RETURN
BUTTON!

I AM-- BUT IT DOESN'T
WORK! IT MUST HAVE
BEEN JARRED WHEN
WE FOUGHT OUR WAY
OUT OF THE GALLEY!
WE'RE TRAPPED, **ROBIN**--
TRAPPED IN THE PAST!



THE CREATURE IS
STUMBLING ABOUT
IN BEWILDERMENT!
IT CAN'T GET
THROUGH THE
LEAD!



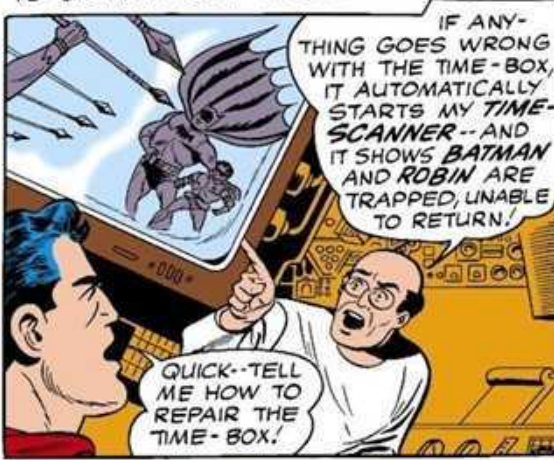
SUPERMAN-- A
MESSAGE HAS
COME FROM A
PROFESSOR
NICHOLS IN
GOTHAM CITY!
HE WANTS YOU
AT ONCE!

MEANWHILE, IN THE FUTURE, **SUPERMAN** IS
STILL TRYING TO TRAP THE MENACE FROM
THE PAST!

LEAD BLOCKS MANY TYPES OF
ENERGY RADIATIONS--AND SINCE THIS
CREATURE IS MADE UP OF ENERGY--MAYBE
THIS RING OF LEAD WILL BLOCK THE
CREATURE!



INSTANTLY, **SUPERMAN** RACES BACK
TO GOTHAM CITY WHERE...



IF ANY-
THING GOES
WRONG
WITH THE TIME-BOX,
IT AUTOMATICALLY
STARTS MY **TIME-
SCANNER**--AND
IT SHOWS **BATMAN**
AND **ROBIN** ARE
TRAPPED, UNABLE
TO RETURN!

QUICK--TELL
ME HOW TO
REPAIR THE
TIME-BOX!

AFTER RECEIVING
INSTRUCTIONS,
SUPERMAN
RACES FORWARD,
HIS SPEED
INCREASING--
FASTER--EVER
FASTER...



...UNTIL HE
BURSTS
THROUGH
THE
TIME-BARRIER
INTO THE
PAST!



SUPERMAN!

WHIRLING LIKE A DESERT STORM, SUPERMAN DRAWS THE PHARAOH'S TROOPS SKYWARD...



AFTER SUPERMAN REPAIRS THE TIME-BOX, BATMAN PRESSES THE RETURN BUTTON, AND...

YOU'RE COMING BACK, TOO, SUPERMAN-- BECAUSE, LIKE ROBIN, YOU'RE WITHIN THE BOX'S TIME-FIELD...



WHEN THE WEAPON IS RECOVERED AND SUPERMAN RETURNS WITH BATMAN AND ROBIN TO THE MEDITERRANEAN ISLAND...



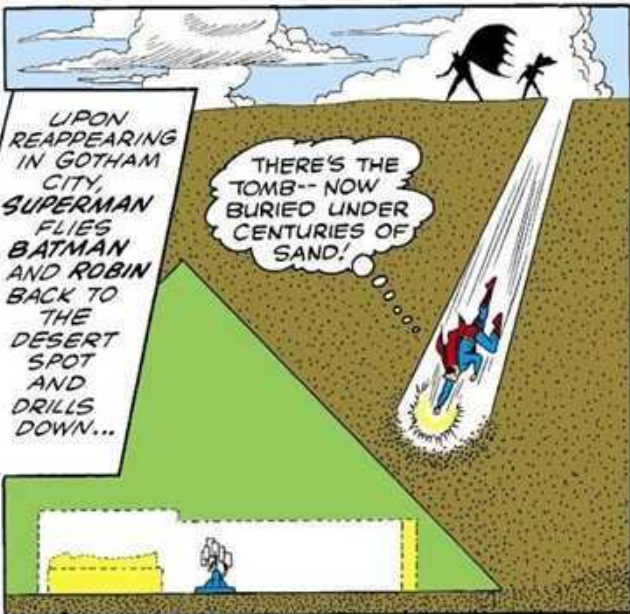
THE CREATURE'S GONE! IT COULDN'T GET THROUGH THE LEAD WALL, SO IT BURROWED THROUGH THE GROUND--AND INTO THE SEA. IT WILL BE HEADING FOR THE MAINLAND!

AND THEN DEPOSITS THEM SAFELY, MILES FROM BATMAN AND ROBIN...



ALL! THE PHARAOH WOULD NOT BELIEVE US IF WE TOLD HIM OF THIS SORCERY. TO AVOID HIS ANGER, WE HAD BEST SAY THE BANDITS ELUDED US IN THE DESERT!

Aye!



UPON REAPPEARING IN GOTHAM CITY, SUPERMAN FLIES BATMAN AND ROBIN BACK TO THE DESERT SPOT AND DRILLS DOWN...

THERE'S THE TOMB-- NOW BURIED UNDER CENTURIES OF SAND!

RACING TO THE MAINLAND, THE TRIO SEES SOMETHING HEAVE UP FROM THE SEA...



HERE IT COMES!

LET IT COME-- AND LET'S HOPE THIS WEAPON REALLY WORKS!



13
THE
END

WORLD'S
FINEST
COMICS



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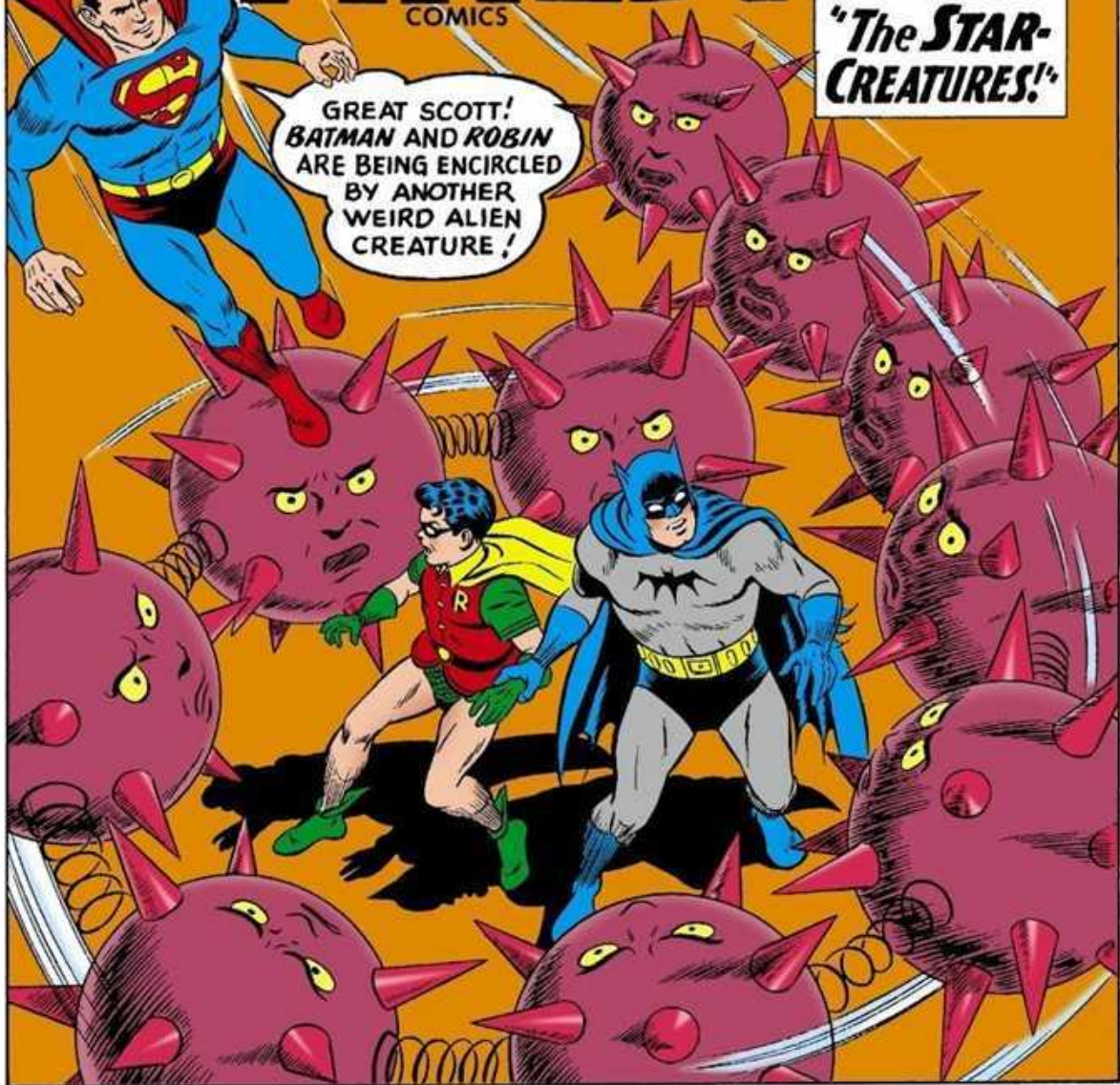


WORLD'S FINEST

COMICS

SUPERMAN
AND
BATMAN
VS.
*'The STAR-
CREATURES!'*

GREAT SCOTT!
BATMAN AND ROBIN
ARE BEING ENCIRCLED
BY ANOTHER
WEIRD
ALIEN
CREATURE!



YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES

SUPERMAN
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

BATMAN
AND
ROBIN

IN ONE
ADVENTURE
Together!



SUDDENLY, THEY APPEARED...
EERIE... SINISTER... FOREBODING...
WITH TERRIBLE POWERS! WHAT
FANTASTIC MASTER PLAN WERE
THEY CARRYING OUT? HOW DID
THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST HEROES--
SUPERMAN, BATMAN AND
ROBIN-- SERVE THEIR
INCREDIBLE PURPOSE? WAS
THERE EVEN ANY CHANCE OF
DEFEATING...

the **STAR**
CREATURES

ONE DAY, AS POLICE CORNER TWO DESPERATE CRIMINALS IN THE OUTSKIRTS OF GOTHAM CITY...

TH-THAT GREEN FOG...
IT SEEMED TO COME FROM
NOWHERE--BLANKETING
MIDGE AND BEAVER!

A MOMENT LATER, AS THE EERIE
FOG RISES...

WHAT--? TH-THEY **DISAPPEARED**...
VANISHED INTO THIN AIR!

NEWS OF THE STRANGE EVENT BRINGS
BATMAN AND ROBIN HURRYING TO THE
OFFICE OF POLICE COMMISSIONER
GORDON...

MY MEN COMBED
THE AREA--BUT
FOUND NO TRACE OF
THE TWO CRIMINALS!

STRANGE...WE'LL
GET OUT THERE
AT ONCE,
COMMISSIONER!

PRESENTLY, AS THE **BAT-PLANE** SOARS
OVER THE AREA...

BATMAN!
DOWN THERE...
L-LOOK!

AN
INCREDIBLE
CREATURE...
BUILDING
SOMETHING!

WH-WHAT IS IT?
WHERE DOES IT
COME FROM?

I DON'T KNOW-- BUT IT'S
CONSTRUCTING A RAMP
WITH AMAZING SPEED!

AND NOW--
TINY ROBOTS
RUNNING UP
THE RAMP!

IT LEADS DIRECTLY OVER
GOTHAM CITY! THIS LOOKS
LIKE SOME KIND OF
INVASION... WE MUST TRY
TO STOP THEM!

WITH PINPOINT PRECISION, **BATMAN** MANEUVERS
THE PLANE, UNTIL...

WE'LL RIDE DOWN
THE RAMP AND
SWEEP THEM
OFF!

BUT, SUDDENLY...

THAT CREATURE--
AIMING A **SHEET**
OF FLAME AT
US!

HISSES

WHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE! HE
MISSED US -- AND THE FLAME
VAPORIZED THE REST OF THE
RAMP!

GOLLY...
WHAT KIND OF
MONSTROUS THING
ARE WE UP AGAINST?
WHAT DOES IT
WANT?

IT IS AT THIS VERY MOMENT THAT A STRANGE PAIR OF EYES PEERS INTO A UNIQUE TELEVISION SCREEN...

AAAAH... I KNEW IT WOULDN'T TAKE LONG FOR **SUPERMAN** TO HEAR THE NEWS AND SPEED TO THE SCENE! MY PLAN IS WORKING PERFECTLY!



THUS, WHILE ALIEN EYES WATCH IN SECRET...

BATMAN AND ROBIN... BEING ATTACKED BY A WEIRD CREATURE! I'LL FLY RIGHT AT IT!



BUT AS THE MAN OF STEEL MAKES A PASS...

THE THING MUST HAVE SOME KIND OF BUILT-IN RADAR! IT SENSED **SUPERMAN'S** APPROACH, AND CHANGED ITS SHAPE!



HMM... MAYBE A BLAST OF **SUPER-BREATH** WOULD TAKE CARE OF IT! I'LL AIM AT ITS HEAD THIS TIME...



BUT ONCE AGAIN...

GREAT SCOTT! IT CAN CHANGE SHAPE IN THE TWINKLING OF AN EYE!

POOF-F-F



NEXT INSTANT...

GREEN MIST... JUST LIKE THE ONE THAT ENVELOPED THE TWO CROOKS THE POLICE WERE CHASING!



WHEN THE FOG CLEARS...

IT... IT'S
VANISHED!

JUST THE WAY MIDGE
AND BEAVER DISAPPEARED!
WHAT POSSIBLE CONNECTION
CAN THERE BE? WHAT WAS
THE CREATURE TRYING
TO DO?



JUST THEN...

LOOK! ANOTHER
MONSTROUS
CREATURE ...
ENVELOPING A
ROBOT IN A
TRANSPARENT
SPHERE!



AND AFTER
ENCASING
EACH
ROBOT...

THEY'RE
BEING WAFED
OVER GOTHAM
CITY! I'D BETTER
SMASH THEM, WHILE
YOU TWO SEE IF YOU
CAN STOP THAT
THING!



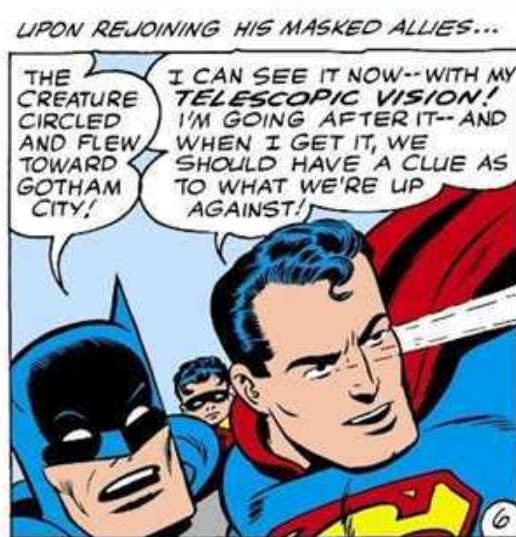
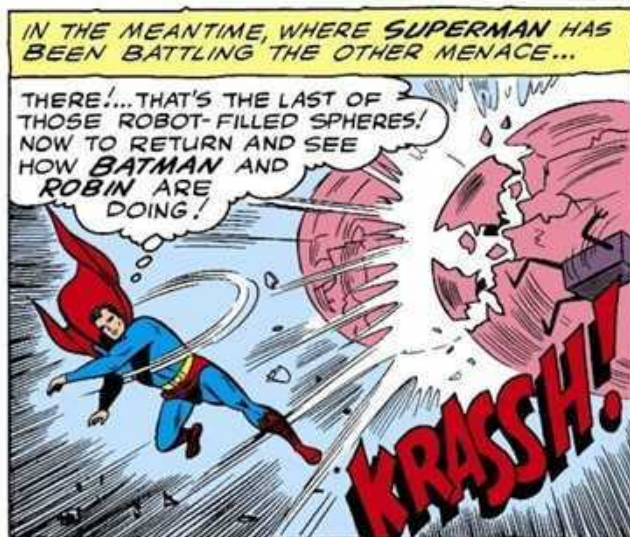
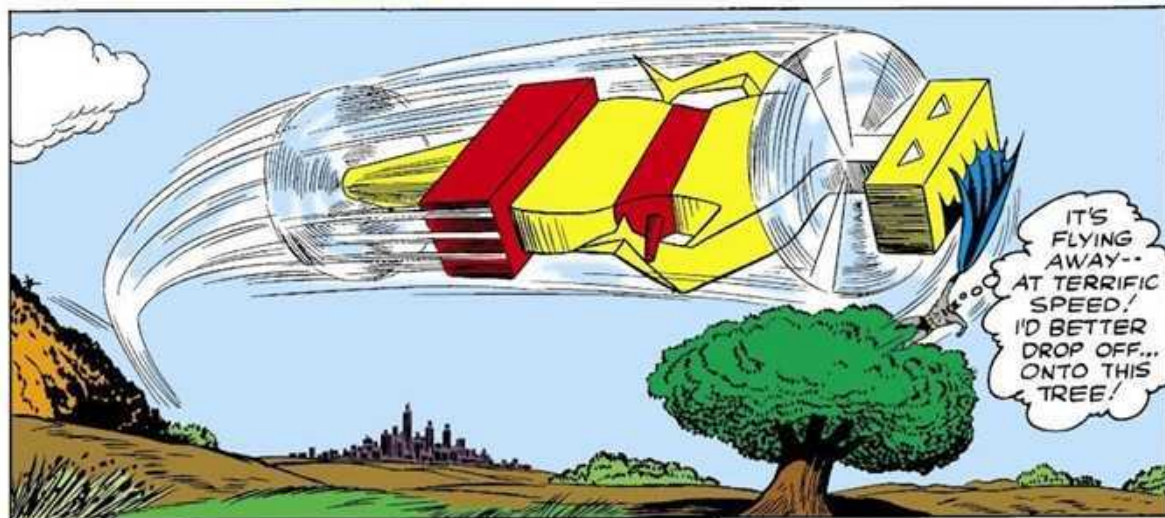
GET UP ON THAT
HILLSIDE, ROBIN--
RIGHT BEHIND THE
CREATURE-- AND
START ROLLING
BOULDERS AT
IT WHEN I
GIVE THE
WORD!



UPWARD ARCS THE LITHE FIGURE OF
BATMAN...

I'LL LAND ON
ITS HEAD...





AND AS THE MAN OF TOMORROW
STREAKS OFF...

AH--WHAT SUPERS
ACTION! THIS WILL BE
THE BEST MOVIE
I'VE EVER
FILMED!

MY TRUE-TO-LIFE COPIES OF CREATURES
FROM OTHER PLANETS EVEN HAVE
BATMAN, ROBIN AND SUPERMAN
FOOLED! I'LL BE THE MOST FAMOUS
MOVIE PRODUCER IN KZOTL, WHEN
I GET BACK HOME!

IT WAS A TOUCH OF GENIUS, USING
THE **DISSOLVING MIST** TO CAPTURE
YOU TWO! YOUR DISAPPEARANCE LURED
BATMAN AND ROBIN TO MY
ISOLATED "SET", WHERE THEY COULD
FIGHT MY "CREATURES" WITHOUT
DANGER TO EARTHLINGS.

THE **ENERGY-MINUS LIGHT** KEEPS YOU
HELPLESS! AND WHEN MY FILM IS DONE,
I'LL TURN YOU OVER TO
THE AUTHORITIES!

NOW FOR MY NEXT
BATMAN-ROBIN
SCENE... AND
ANOTHER
REALISTIC
PROP!

WITHIN SECONDS,
UNAWARE THAT THEY
ARE MERELY "STARS"
IN AN INTERPLANETARY
MOVIE, THE CAPED
CRIME-FIGHTERS
FACE A NEW
DANGER...

ROBIN!
UP THERE--
ANOTHER
CREATURE!

I--I SEE...
ALSO FEEL
STRANGE--
HEAVY!



WHILE IN THE ALIEN'S HEADQUARTERS...





ROBIN!...I'VE GOT AN IDEA! YOUR MIRROR--IN YOUR UTILITY BELT--QUICK...HOLD IT UP TO THE RAYS!



IT'S WORKING! THE RAYS REFLECT BACK TO THE THING BEFORE REACHING US!

YES--I FEEL LIGHTER ALREADY! COME ON, ROBIN... WE CAN STILL OUT-RACE THAT AVALANCHE!



SO WHAT? WITH ALL THESE GADGETS YOU GOT HERE, THEY'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO STOP MIDGE AND ME!

THEY MADE IT! BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE EVEN CLEVERER THAN I THOUGHT!



MEANWHILE, AS SUPERMAN CATCHES UP TO THE MONSTER WHICH THE ALIEN NO LONGER CONTROLS...

THAT SHOULD TAKE CARE OF IT!



WHAT--? IT WAS ONLY A ROBOT! I--I DON'T UNDERSTAND...

AND WHEN HE AGAIN JOINS FORCES WITH **BATMAN AND ROBIN**...

THAT ONE, SMASHED BY THE AVALANCHE, IS A CLEVER ROBOT CREATURE, TOO! OBVIOUSLY, AN ALIEN INTELLIGENCE IS PITTING US AGAINST THEM, FOR SOME REASON!

EXACTLY WHAT I DEDUCED! WE'LL HAVE TO FIGURE OUT A PLAN OF ACTION!



BUT AT THIS VERY MOMENT...

HEY, BEAVER!... GET A LOAD OF THIS **FLYIN' GLASS CAGE!** IT'S ALSO **BULLET-PROOF!**

YEAH... AND I FOUND A GREAT GADGET, TOO! LET'S GET BUSY, MIDGE!



SHORTLY...

LOOK!... THE MISSING CROOKS IN A STRANGE CONTRAPTION! LET'S GO... I'LL TAKE YOU TWO WITH ME!



AS THE TRIO NEARS THE FLYING CAGE...

BETTER NOT COME ANY CLOSER, **SUPERMAN**, TILL YOU SEE WHAT **THIS** CAN DO! WATCH THAT TREE...



THIS LITTLE GADGET MAKES **NOTHIN' OUT OF ANYTHING!** IF YOU INTERFERE WITH US, **BATMAN AND ROBIN** WILL GO **POOF!**... FOR GOOD!

I--I DAREN'T TAKE A CHANCE... I'LL HAVE TO LET THEM GO!



SO A LITTLE LATER, AT A **GOOTHAM CITY BANK**, AS **SUPERMAN, BATMAN AND ROBIN** WATCH HELPLESSLY...

THAT'S RIGHT--LOAD UP THE CAGE, BOYS!

IT MAKES ME FURIOUS, JUST STANDING HERE... BUT WHAT CAN WE DO?



AND WHILE THE CROOKS GO LOOTING THE CITY AT WILL...

IF ONLY I COULD GET A LITTLE CLOSER TO THAT CONTROL PANEL! MUST... TRY... ROLLING OVER...

AAAAH...
MADE
IT!

AN INSTANT LATER, BATMAN STIFFENS, AND...

EH--? TH-THIS IS INCREDIBLE! I WONDER... SHOULD I RISK IT? I MUST... OTHERWISE THOSE TWO WILL MAKE A SHAMBLES OF GOTHAM CITY!

ABRUPTLY...

BATMAN!
ARE YOU MAD?
GET BACK!

OKAY, BUSTER, YOU ASKED FOR IT...

BUT AS BEAVER PULLS THE TRIGGER...

IT DOESN'T
WORK...
OOF!

GET MIDGE,
SUPERMAN!

CLICK!

HA, HA! THAT GLASS MAY BE BULLET-PROOF, BUT IT'S CERTAINLY NOT SUPERMAN-PROOF!

KRAASH

AND SO, AFTERWARD, WHEN POLICE HAVE REMOVED THE CRIMINALS TO ANOTHER KIND OF CAGE...

HOW DID YOU KNOW BEAVER'S WEAPON WOULDN'T WORK, **BATMAN**?

I GOT A **TELEPATHIC MESSAGE** FROM AN ALIEN INTELLIGENCE! I DIDN'T KNOW WHETHER TO TRUST IT OR NOT, BUT DECIDED TO TAKE THE CHANCE!



THE ALIEN IS ALSO IN TROUBLE... AND TOLD ME WHERE TO FIND HIM!

THEN, LET'S GO... **SUPERMAN FLYING SERVICE** WILL TAKE YOU THERE DIRECTLY!



LATER, AFTER HEARING THE ALIEN'S STORY...

PLEASE FORGIVE ME... I'VE LEARNED MY LESSON! I'LL NEVER TAMPER WITH OTHER PEOPLES' DESTINIES AGAIN!

A WISE DECISION, FRIEND... GOODBYE!



THAT SAME EVENING, AS THE TRIO PASSES A MOVIE THEATER...

JUST THINK... SOMEWHERE OUT IN SPACE, WE'LL BE MOVIE STARS, TOO!

YES... BUT I HOPE WE'LL NEVER HAVE TO PLAY THAT SAME ROLE OVER AGAIN!



12
THE
END

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS



WORLD'S FINEST

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

MAY
NO. 109

COMICS *"The
BEWITCHED
BATMAN!"*



THE SORCERER'S
SPELL THAT'S BEEN
CAST OVER *BATMAN*
IS FORCING HIM TO
FIGHT *SUPERMAN*--
AND HE NOW HAS
SUPER-POWERS
TO DO IT WITH!

YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES

SUPERMAN

and

BATMAN
AND
ROBIN

GOTHAM CITY HALL

IN ONE
ADVENTURE
Together!

BATMAN!
STOP!

I MUST DO
AS FANGAN
COMMANDS--
OR DIE!

GREAT SCOTT! WHAT A
MISTAKE I MADE, GIVING
BATMAN SUPER POWERS!
WHO KNOWS WHAT HE'LL
DO NEXT UNDER THAT
MYSTERIOUS
SPELL?

FANGAN, THE SORCERER DIED 800 YEARS AGO-- YET HIS STRANGE ENCHANTMENT REACHED THROUGH THE CENTURIES TO STRIKE AT BATMAN! DID SUPERMAN AND ROBIN HELP-- OR MAKE MATTERS WORSE WHEN THEY CAME TO HIS AID WITH A DARING AND DANGEROUS PLAN? SEE FOR YOURSELF WHEN YOU READ...

the **BEWITCHED** **BATMAN**

ONE DAY, IN THE METROPOLIS OFFICE OF **THE DAILY PLANET**, REPORTER CLARK KENT GETS AN URGENT PHONE CALL...

THIS IS DICK GRAYSON CALLING FROM GOTHAM CITY! CAN YOU COME HERE AT ONCE?

WHY--ER-- SURE!

IN AN UNOCCUPIED STOCK ROOM, CLARK KENT SWITCHES TO HIS WORLD-FAMOUS IDENTITY OF **SUPERMAN**, THEN...

IT MUST BE SOME SERIOUS TROUBLE FOR DICK TO CALL ME! BUT I'LL KNOW IN A FEW SECONDS, THANKS TO MY SUPER-SPEED!

PRESENTLY, IN THE WAYNE MANSION, DICK (ALIAS **ROBIN THE BOY WONDER**) LEADS **SUPERMAN** THROUGH A SECRET ENTRANCE TO THE **BAT-CAVE**...

SUPERMAN-- PREPARE FOR A SHOCK!

A SHOCK? **SUPERMAN** IS STUNNED BY THE SIGHT OF HIS ALLY...

LET ME FREE! LET ME FREE AT ONCE OR I... I'LL DIE!

BATMAN! WHY IS HE SHACKLED TO THE WALL?

IT'S AN INCREDIBLE STORY, **SUPERMAN**! AS YOU KNOW, **BATMAN** AND I RECENTLY ATTENDED AN INTERNATIONAL POLICE CONVENTION IN ENGLAND!

"AFTER THE MEETING, I WENT TO THE CIRCUS ONE DAY WHILE **BATMAN** EXPLORED SOME ANCIENT CAVES. THAT NIGHT, AS I WAITED AT THE **BAT-PLANE** FOR HIM..."

OUT OF MY WAY, **ROBIN**! I MUST... USE THE **BAT-PLANE**... FIND A DRAGON... CONQUER IT! IT IS THE COMMAND OF **FANGAN THE SORCERER**! I MUST OBEY... OR PERISH!

BATMAN! WHAT'S COME OVER YOU?

"THERE WAS SOMETHING TERRIBLY WRONG! HE WAS IN NO CONDITION TO FLY SOLO! HE HIT THE GROUND HARD WHEN I TACKLED HIM..."

HE'S OUT COLD! THERE'S ONLY ONE THING FOR ME TO DO... BIND HIM, RETURN HOME, AND CONTACT **SUPERMAN** AT ONCE!

WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF IT?

I DON'T KNOW! BUT MAYBE I CAN GET A GLIMMER OF AN IDEA BY DOING SOME RESEARCH...



USING HIS AMAZING TELESCOPIC AND X-RAY VISION, **SUPERMAN** DISCOVERS AN ASTONISHING FACT AS HE READS AT SUPER-SPEED...

GREAT SCOTT! THERE WAS A MAN NAMED FANGAN WHO HAD A REPUTATION AS A SORCERER! HE DIED 800 YEARS AGO--YET, SOMEHOW, HE HAS BEWITCHED **BATMAN**!



BATMAN! PLEASE--TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED!

THE SECRET CAVE--THE WORDS OF FANGAN--THE MIST--I MUST CONQUER A DRAGON OR PERISH! **SUPERMAN**--HELP ME!



NO DRAGONS EXIST TODAY--YET, HE BELIEVES SO STRONGLY HE'LL DIE IF HE DOESN'T FIGHT ONE, HE COULD VERY WELL PERISH!

I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT IT SINCE WE GOT HOME, AND I HAVE A PLAN...



ROBIN HURRIEDLY WHISPERS TO **SUPERMAN**, THEN...

I THINK I WILL BE ABLE TO FIND YOU A DRAGON TO FIGHT, **BATMAN**--BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO DO EXACTLY AS I SAY! ARE YOU WILLING?

YES--I'LL DO ANYTHING! THERE CAN BE NO PEACE FOR ME UNTIL I OBEY FANGAN'S COMMAND!



MINUTES LATER, THE TRIO SOARS THROUGH SPACE TOWARDS AN ISOLATED AREA...

THERE IT IS BELOW--MY **FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE**! I'LL DO AS YOU SUGGESTED, **ROBIN**, BUT IT'S GOING TO BE DANGEROUS!

I KNOW, BUT HOW ELSE CAN WE SAVE HIM?



SOON, INSIDE THE FORTRESS...



A LITTLE LATER...



AS ROBIN PUZZLES OVER THIS ENIGMA, SUPERMAN EXPLORES OUTER SPACE...



PRESENTLY, AFTER STUDYING HUNDREDS OF SOLAR SYSTEMS...



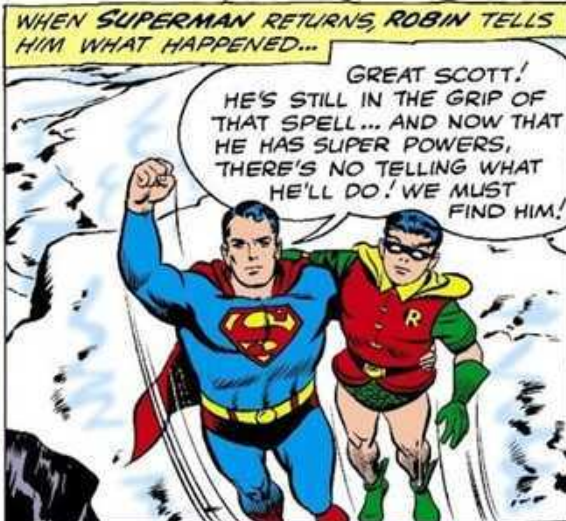
MINUTES LATER, ON EARTH...

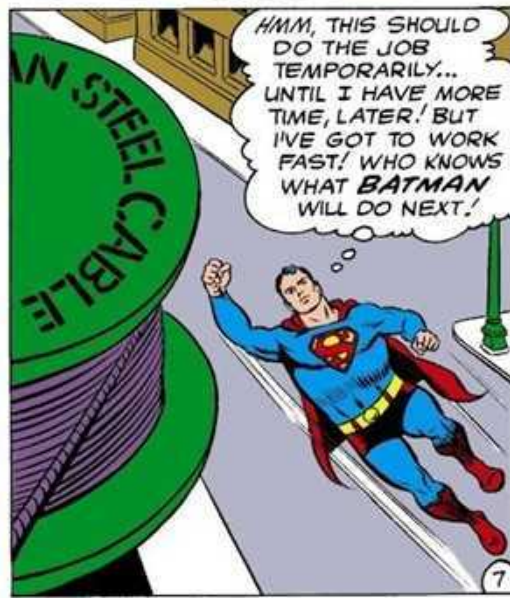


LITHE MUSCLES RIPPLING WITH SUPER STRENGTH, **BATMAN** LEAPS TO THE ATTACK...









SOON...

THIS WILL PREVENT THE WALL FROM COLLAPSING AND MAKE THE BUILDING SAFE FOR ITS OCCUPANTS! NOW TO FIND **BATMAN**!

MEANWHILE...

GOSH--YOU WANT TO DO **ME** A FAVOR, **BATMAN**? I CAN SURE USE SOME HELP! I SELL ALL KINDS OF MASKS IN A LITTLE OFFICE UP THERE, BUT NO ONE SEEMS TO KNOW IT! IF YOU COULD GET A HUGE SIGN OF SOME KIND...

WHAT YOU WISH SHALL BE DONE!

SOON, AT AN ABANDONED STORAGE TANK...

THE HEAT OF MY X-RAY VISION MELTS THE METAL, AND, BEING INVULNERABLE, I CAN MOLO IT TO ANY SHAPE I WISH!

NOT LONG AFTER...

MASKS MADE TO ORDER FOR ALL OCCASIONS

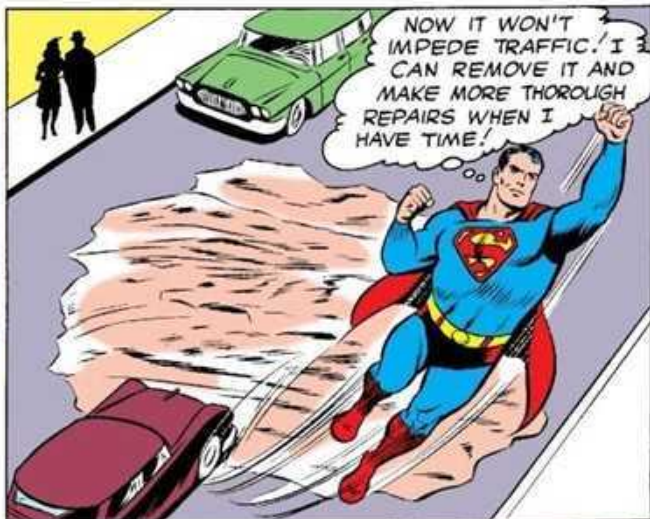
THAT'S WONDERFUL! THANKS, **BATMAN**!

HA, HA! WAIT TILL HE ASKS ME WHAT I WANT!

MOMENTS LATER, WHEN **SUPERMAN** APPEARS...

GREAT GUNS! THAT MASK WAS TOO HEAVY! LUCKILY, NO ONE WAS HURT! IF I LEAVE IT THERE, IT WILL BLOCK TRAFFIC--BUT IF I TAKE IT AWAY, THERE'LL BE A DANGEROUS HOLE!

KRASSSSHHH



MOMENTS LATER, AT THE HOUR OF ONE, SUPERMAN DELIVERS BEETLES TO THE POLICE AND RETURNS!

NOW, BATMAN CAN YOU TELL US WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?

YES! AS I PUSHED THE BOULDER ASIDE AND ENTERED THE CAVE, A FLAGON CRASHED TO THE CAVERN FLOOR! THE CAVE FILLED WITH A STRANGE MIST...



HMM... THERE MUST HAVE BEEN A RARE HERB IN THAT FLAGON, BALANCED ON THE BOULDER! WHEN YOU PUSHED IT ASIDE, THE FLAGON FELL AND SHATTERED! ITS CONTENTS HAD A HYPNOTIC EFFECT--YOU REALLY BELIEVED YOU WOULD DIE IF YOU DIDN'T FOLLOW THOSE COMMANDS!



NOW THAT YOU HAVE SUPER POWERS, HOW ABOUT HELPING ME, BATMAN?

NO, I MUST USE THEM FOR ANOTHER PURPOSE! I NEED THEM TO OBEY FANGAN'S THIRD COMMAND! I MUST...



"WHEN IT CLEARED, I SAW THE WRITING ON THE WALL!"

THE COMMANDS OF FANGAN... I MUST OBEY OR DIE!

THOU SHALT DO AS FANGAN COMMANDS, OR DIE!

FIRST, THOU WILT CONQUER A DRAGON!
SECOND, GO THOU TO THY NATIVE CITY, CLOTHED AS A JESTER, AND OFFER THY SERVICES TO ALL YOU MEET! THOU MUST DO WHATEVER THEY REQUEST... FROM THE HOUR OF NOON TO ONE!
THIRD, THOU WILT CONQUER THE WORLD!



SUDDENLY...

SUPERMAN!

THANK GOODNESS I FOUND YOU! A FREAK FOREST FIRE BROKE OUT IN THE HILLS--ENCIRCLING AN ENTIRE VILLAGE! FIREFIGHTERS CAN'T GET THROUGH TO RESCUE THE TRAPPED INHABITANTS!

I'LL COME AT ONCE!



... FIGHT AND OVERPOWER THE WORLD'S STRONGEST MAN!

TH-THAT'S ME! I'VE NO TIME TO ARGUE OR FIGHT HIM! I'M NEEDED AT THAT VILLAGE AT ONCE!



AND AS THE BEWITCHED BATMAN PURSUES...



SECONDS LATER, NEAR THE
FLAME-ENCIRCLED VILLAGE...

NO TIME TO RESCUE THE
PEOPLE, BUT I CAN FLY OVER
THIS RIVER SO FAST, THE
VACUUM I CREATE BEHIND
WILL DRAW THE RIVER!

SOON...

NOW TO FLY RIGHT THROUGH
THE FLAMES TO QUENCH
THEM!

HMM... THAT'S WHAT I HOPED HE'D DO
WHEN I PRETENDED TO LET MYSELF BE
HURLED INTO SPACE! **BATMAN** CAME TO
HIS SENSES AND USED HIS SUPER
POWERS TO HANDLE THE EMERGENCY
HIMSELF!

THAT NIGHT, IN THE **BAT-CAVE**,
WHEN THE TRIO CELEBRATES
BATMAN'S RETURN TO
NORMALCY...

I DID SOME
SEARCHING WITH MY X-RAY
VISION TODAY, AND CAME
ACROSS THIS DOCUMENT
WRITTEN BY FANGAN!
APPARENTLY, HE SET A TRAP
FOR A KNIGHT HE HATED! HE
WROTE, "I SHALL TELL HIM OF
A TREASURE HIDDEN IN THE
CAVE, AND...

"...WHEN HE ENTERS..."

HE WILL SEND THIS FLAGON
CRASHING TO THE FLOOR!
FUMES FROM THE RARE HERB IT
CONTAINS WILL MAKE HIM BELIEVE HE
WILL PERISH IF HE DOES NOT FOLLOW MY
COMMANDS! THUS, HE WILL HUMBLE
HIMSELF AS A JESTER BEFORE HE IS
KILLED IN A FIGHT WITH THE WORLD'S
STRONGEST MORTAL--
SIR BORS!

THOU SHALT DO AS
FANGAN COMMANDS, OR DIE!

FIRST, THOU WILT CONQUER
A DRAGON!
SECOND, GO THOU TO THY
NATIVE CITY, CLOTHED AS A
JESTER, AND OFFER THY
SERVICES TO ALL YOU
MEET! THOU MUST DO
WHATEVER THEY REQUEST...
FROM THE HOUR OF...

HOWEVER, FANGAN
DIED BEFORE HE
COULD TELL THAT
KNIGHT, AND
YOU STUMBLED
INTO IT--800
YEARS LATER!

IT COULD HAVE BEEN
FATAL TO ME--IF I
DIDN'T HAVE SUCH
SUPER FRIENDS--
AND I MEAN
BOTH OF
YOU!

THE END



WORLD'S FINEST

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

JUNE
NO. 110

Featuring
SUPERMAN
and **BATMAN**
IN

**"The ALIEN
WHO DOOMED
ROBIN!"**

COMICS

**STOP,
SUPERMAN!**
THAT CREATURE
HAS CAPTURED
PART OF ROBIN'S
LIFE-FORCE--AND
IF YOU HARM IT,
ROBIN WILL
DIE!



YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES

SUPERMAN
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

and

BATMAN
AND
ROBIN

HE CAME TO EARTH ON A MISSION THAT THREATENED TO WIPE OUT GOTHAM CITY...AND WHEN SUPERMAN, BATMAN AND ROBIN TRIED TO STOP HIM, HE STRUCK BACK WITH AN INCREDIBLE AND CRUEL POWER! INDEED, IT SEEMED THERE WAS NO POSSIBLE WAY OF STOPPING...

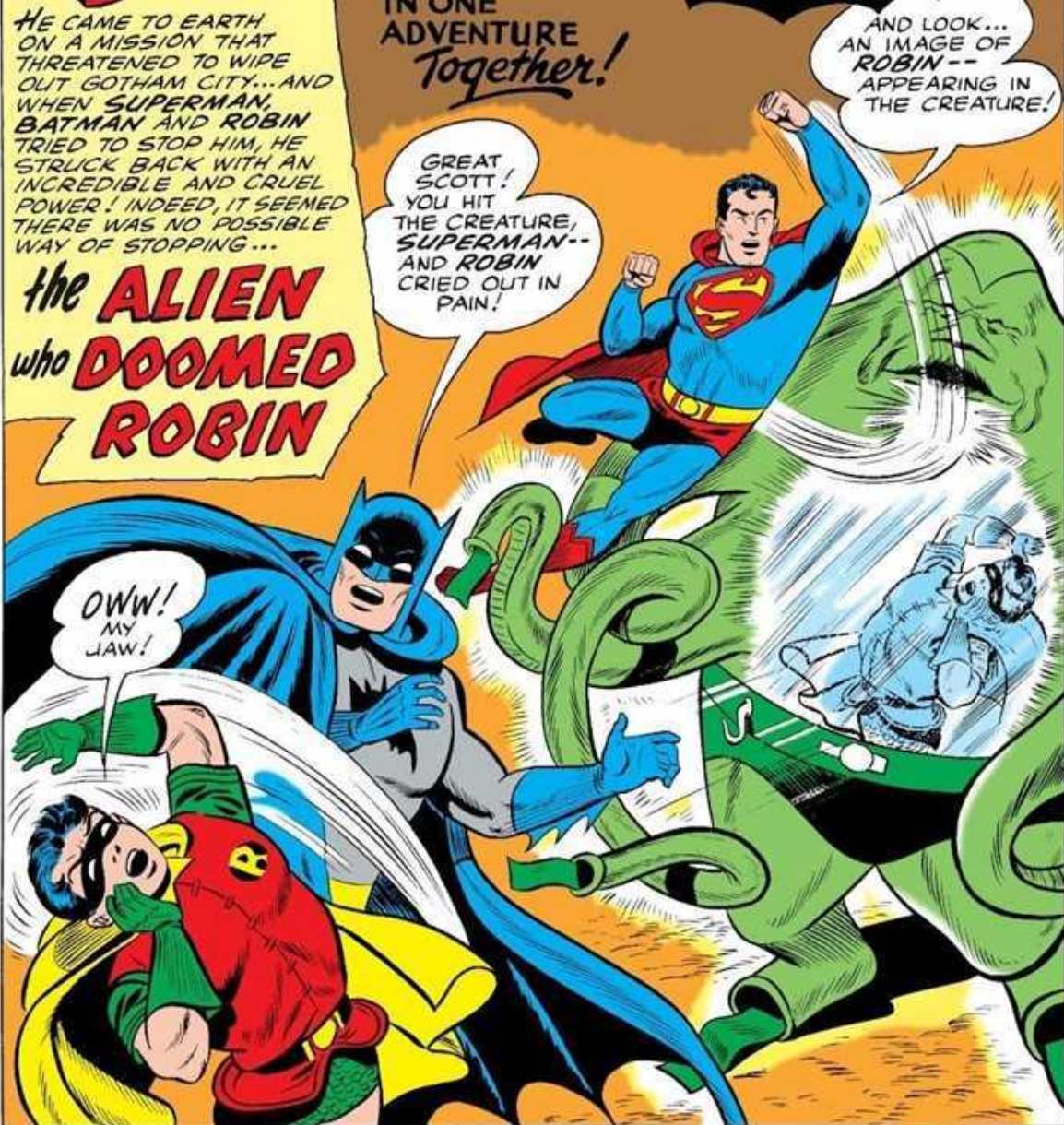
the **ALIEN**
who **DOOMED**
ROBIN

IN ONE
ADVENTURE
Together!

GREAT
SCOTT!
YOU HIT
THE CREATURE,
SUPERMAN--
AND ROBIN
CRIED OUT IN
PAIN!

AND LOOK...
AN IMAGE OF
ROBIN--
APPEARING IN
THE CREATURE!

OWW!
MY
JAW!



EARLY ONE MORNING, A STRANGE SPACE-CRAFT LANDS ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF GOTHAM CITY...

AN INCREDIBLE CREATURE EMERGES, WEARING AN OMINOUS SMILE-- BEARING A PECULIAR OBJECT...

"HA, HA, HA!" LITTLE DO THE PEOPLE OF THIS PLANET SUSPECT THE SURPRISE AWAITING THEM!

CAREFULLY, HE UNLOADS A WEIRD CARGO, LAYING IT ON THE FLOOR OF THE CAVERN...

LAK, KROG, ZARNES... VORNO-- AND NOW THE EARTH! SOON, MY TASK WILL BE COMPLETE!

SHORTLY AFTERWARD, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN PATROL THE CITY...

THAT CREATURE!... WH-WHERE DOES HE COME FROM? WHAT IS HE DOING?

READY FOR SALE
IN ONE MONTH
Avalon Homes

GREAT SCOTT! HE... HE SHRINK THAT BUILDING TO A MERE TOY! I MUST STOP HIM!

WAIT, BATMAN... LET ME HANDLE HIM!-- WITH THIS GUN! IT'S SAFER!

BEL
CIRCUS



BUT SUDDENLY...



FOOLS!
NO ONE ON
EARTH
CAN HARM
ME!



GOLLY--WHAT POWER!
LUCKY ROBIN AND I
KNOW HOW TO BREAK
A FALL!

A MOMENT LATER, AS THE CAPED CRIME-
FIGHTERS SCRAMBLE TO THEIR FEET...



LOOK...
SUPERMAN! HE
MUST HAVE HEARD RADIO
REPORTS OF THAT CREATURE! NOW WE'LL
SEE IF NOTHING ON
EARTH CAN
BOTHER HIM!

YOU DON'T LOOK
SO TOUGH TO ME!
I HAVE A GOOD
MIND TO SEND
YOU BACK WHERE
YOU CAME
FROM--WITH
MY FIST!

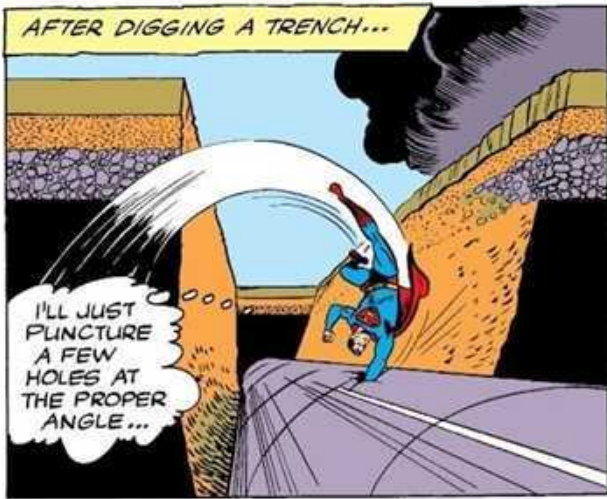
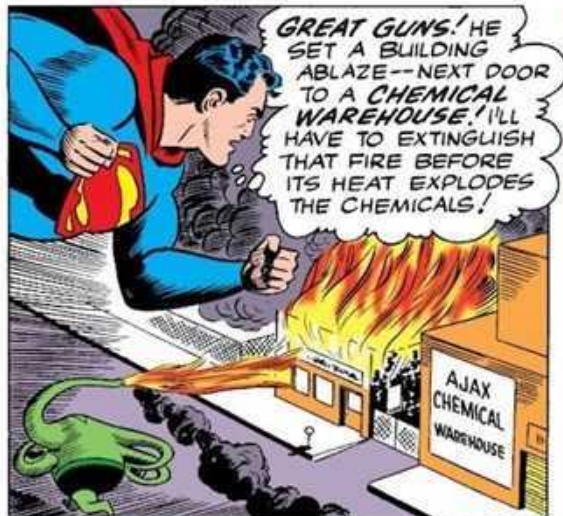


HERE'S JUST A SMALL **SAMPLE**
OF WHAT YOU'LL GET, IF YOU
DON'T RETURN THAT BUILDING TO
NORMAL AND LEAVE EARTH AT
ONCE!

BUT NO SOONER DOES THE ALIEN
RECOVER THAN...

FLAMES!... FROM THAT
TENTACLE-LIKE ARM!
I GUESS THIS CREATURE
HAS A LOT OF POWERS
WE HAVEN'T SEEN
YET! I'D BETTER
BE MORE
CAREFUL!





MEANWHILE, PANIC STRIKES THE CITY, AS...

WE MUST GET OFF--BEFORE WE'RE SHRUNK, TOO!

GULP! L-UNLUCKY THE MUSEUM HADN'T OPENED YET... NO ONE WAS INSIDE!



AND AS THE CREATURE FLEES WITH HIS STRANGE LOOT...



NOT EVEN FLAMES CAN STOP HIM!
WE'LL JUST HAVE TO HOPE THAT **SUPERMAN**, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** CAN COME UP WITH SOME ANSWER!

BAH!...THOSE THREE COSTUMED EARTHMEN WILL **REALLY** BE SURPRISED WHEN THEY TRY TO COMBAT ME AGAIN! THE FIRST TIME, I WAS TOO STARTLED BY THEIR ATTACK TO USE MY **GREATEST POWER!**



LATER...

I COULDN'T FIND THE ALIEN... BUT I DID LOCATE YOU, WITH MY **TELESCOPIC VISION!** DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA...?

WE CAUGHT A GLIMPSE OF HIM, SOARING TOWARD THOSE CLIFFS! DO YOU SUPPOSE THAT'S WHERE HIS **HIDEOUT** IS?



IN THE MEANTIME...

CREATURE LAST SEEN WITH STOLEN MUSEUM AND OTHER STRUCTURES, HEADING DUE WEST!

AND THAT'S WHERE WE'RE HEADING, **ROBIN!**



SOUNDS LOGICAL--
I'LL ...

WAIT! THERE
HE IS... HEADING
THIS WAY!

AN IDEAL PLACE TO MEET
HIM! IT'S ISOLATED... HE
CAN'T CAUSE ANY
EMERGENCIES TO
DISTRACT ME *THIS*
TIME!



WHAT--? HE SUDDENLY
TURNED BRILLIANT--
LIKE A MIRROR-- AND
I SENSE A KIND
OF *SUCTION*...
AS IF HE'S
DRAWING
SOMETHING
TOWARD
HIMSELF!

I DON'T KNOW
WHAT YOU'RE
UP TO, PAL, BUT
THIS SHOULD
PUT AN END
TO IT!



BUT AS THE MAN OF STEEL'S
FIST CONNECTS...

**SUPERMAN --
STOP!** AS SOON
AS YOU HIT THAT
CREATURE IN THE JAW,
ROBIN GRABBED HIS
JAW, REELING IN
PAIN!



OOOH...
MY JAW!





AND LOOK OVER THERE!... AN IMAGE OF ROBIN-- IN THE CREATURE!



EXACTLY... I HAVE CAPTURED PART OF HIS LIFE FORCE-- DRAWN IT INTO ME-- WITH A POWER THAT YOU EARTHINGS CANNOT UNDERSTAND! ANY PAIN TO ME WILL BE PAINFUL TO HIM!



I--I FEEL WEAK... MUST SLEEP...

HE WILL CONTINUE TO SLEEP IN HIS WEAKENED STATE! AND REMEMBER, ANY SEVERE INJURY TO ME MAY KILL HIM! "HA, HA!" NOW I DEFY YOU TO TRY STOPPING ME!

AND AS THE CREATURE SOARS BACK TOWARD GOTHAM CITY...

I'LL DELIVER YOU TWO TO A DOCTOR, THEN SEE IF I CAN TRAP THAT ALIEN WITHOUT HARMING ROBIN!



SHORTLY, IN THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE...

SOME LIFE FORCE--MAYBE THE VERY WILL TO LIVE--HAS MYSTERIOUSLY LEFT HIM! I SIMPLY DON'T UNDERSTAND IT... ALL I CAN SAY IS, UNLESS HE REGAINS WHATEVER HE'S LOST, HE WILL DIE IN FOUR HOURS!

OH, NO--!



LATER, IN THE LONELY SILENCE OF THE BAT-CAVE...

WILL... WILL THIS BE THE END OF OUR WONDERFUL LIFE TOGETHER? WILL I NEVER SEE ROBIN ALIVE AGAIN?



MEANWHILE, AS THE CREATURE GRIMLY CONTINUES HIS LOOTING...

THERE'S ONLY ONE CHANCE...I MUST TRY TO TRAP HIM *WITHOUT HARMING HIM!* THEN, MAYBE HE'LL BE WILLING TO EXCHANGE HIS OWN FREEDOM FOR ROBIN'S!



SOON...

I MADE THIS CAGE OF A *SUPER-COMPRESSED MATERIAL*, HARDER THAN DIAMONDS! IT CAN'T BURN -- BECAUSE IT'S FIREPROOF -- AND HE CAN'T REPEL IT, BECAUSE IT'S NOT METALLIC! IT SHOULD HOLD HIM!



NOW I'LL HURL IT SO HARD THAT IT SINKS DEEP INTO THE GROUND...



IS HE TRAPPED... OR IS HE GETTING READY TO USE SOME OTHER POWER I DIDN'T SUSPECT HE HAD?



ABRUPTLY...

GREAT SCOTT! POWERFUL AIR-PRESSURE JETS, STRONG ENOUGH TO BLAST THE CAGE FREE! WHAT HOPE IS THERE NOW?



MEANWHILE, AS BATMAN CONTINUES HIS SAD VIGIL IN THE BAT-CAVE...

WH-WHERE AM I? WHAT... WH-WHAT...?

HE'S REGAINING CONSCIOUSNESS! SOMETHING MUST HAVE BROKEN THAT CREATURE'S GRIP!



BUT AN INSTANT LATER...

WEAK... MUST... MUST SLEEP...

HE... HE SLUMPED BACK AGAIN! YET, SOMETHING MUST HAVE HAPPENED TO BREAK THE CONNECTION BETWEEN ROBIN AND THE ALIEN--IF ONLY FOR A MOMENT! I MUST FIND SUPERMAN... TELL HIM ABOUT IT!



PRESENTLY...

THERE HE IS! I CAN'T STAY ON HIS TAIL, BUT I'LL TRY TO KEEP HIM IN SIGHT!

MUST TRY TO FIND WHERE THE CREATURE'S HIDING OUT... MAYBE FIND A CLUE, THERE, TO SOME UNKNOWN WEAKNESS!



AWHILE LATER, SUPERMAN SCANS AN AREA WITH HIS AMAZING X-RAY VISION...

WE TRACKED HIM HERE BEFORE AND -- WAIT! THERE'S HIS HIDEOUT! NOW TO GET A CLOSE LOOK AT IT...



BUT WHILE HE EXAMINES THE CONTENTS OF THE CAVE...

AH--A VISITOR! WELL, I CAN THINK OF NO REASON NOT TO SATISFY YOUR CURIOSITY, NOW THAT I AM READY TO LEAVE! WHAT YOU SEE ARE BUILDINGS THAT I HAVE SHRUNKEN AND TAKEN FROM MANY DIFFERENT WORLDS!



WHEN I GET BACK TO MY OWN WORLD, FAR AWAY, I SHALL PLACE THESE BUILDINGS ON A BARREN ASTEROID I BOUGHT, AND RESTORE THEM TO SIZE BY REVERSING THE ACTION ON THIS DEVICE!





"I WILL TELL EVERYONE I HAD THEM BUILT AS LIFE-SIZED COPIES OF WHAT I HAD OBSERVED, AND I WILL GROW RICH AS THEY PAY TO SEE THE MOST FANTASTIC TOURIST ATTRACTION IN THE GALAXY!"



HA, HA... NO ONE SUSPECTS THAT I STOLE THESE BUILDINGS TO MAKE MY GREAT EXHIBIT--CITIES OF OTHER WORLDS!



WAIT! DON'T GO YET! YOU... YOU MUST FREE ROBIN FIRST!

AND LOSE MY ONLY HOLD OVER YOU? I TRIED TO ABSORB YOU BEFORE BUT COULDN'T! WHEN I LEAVE A FEW MOMENTS FROM NOW, THAT BOY WILL BE MY ONLY ASSURANCE OF SAFETY FROM YOUR POWERS!



WHY, YOU MONSTER, I'LL...

CAREFUL...REMEMBER ROBIN! IT'LL HURT HIM MUCH MORE THAN IT HURTS ME!

AS SUPERMAN HELPLESSLY STEPS BACK...



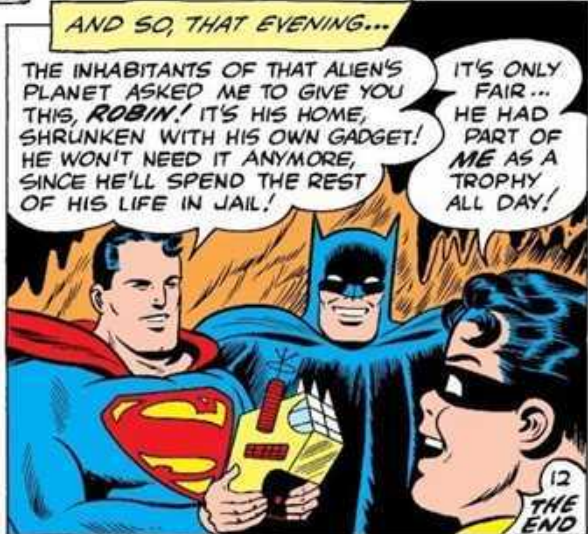
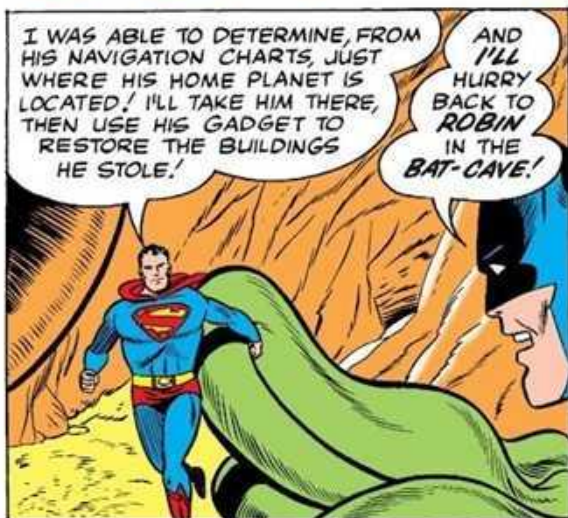
BATMAN...HERE? I'D BETTER SEE HIM BEFORE HE COMES IN! THAT CREATURE MAY ABSORB HIM, TOO, IF HE TRIES SOMETHING RASH!

MOMENTS LATER, AS BATMAN EXPLAINS WHY HE HAS LEFT ROBIN...



THE WAY I SEE IT, SOME UNKNOWN FACTOR SUDDENLY APPEARED, TO BREAK THE CREATURE'S GRIP ON ROBIN'S LIFE FORCE FOR AN INSTANT!

COME TO THINK OF IT, SHORTLY AFTER THE CREATURE ESCAPED FROM THE CAGE, ROBIN'S REFLECTION DISAPPEARED FOR A MOMENT! WHAT COULD HAVE CAUSED THAT?





NO. 111 AUG.



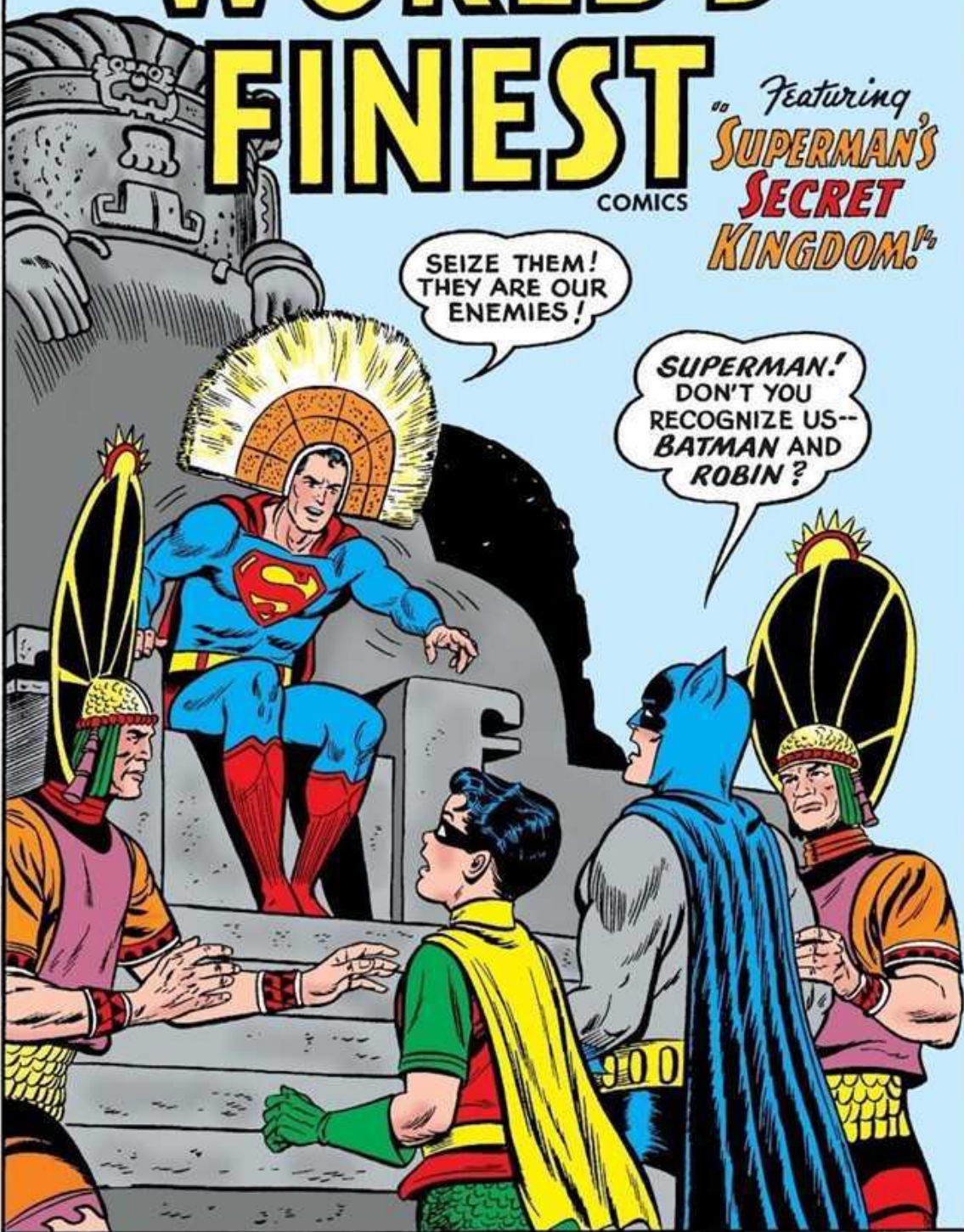
WORLD'S FINEST

COMICS

Featuring
**SUPERMAN'S
SECRET
KINGDOM!**

SEIZE THEM!
THEY ARE OUR
ENEMIES!

SUPERMAN!
DON'T YOU
RECOGNIZE US--
BATMAN AND
ROBIN?



YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES

SUPERMAN
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

and

BATMAN
AND
ROBIN

IN ONE
ADVENTURE
Together!

DEEP IN THE JUNGLE,
BATMAN AND ROBIN
CAME UPON A HIDDEN
CIVILIZATION-- A HIDDEN
EMPIRE OF WHICH
SUPERMAN WAS RULER!
BUT THIS WAS A SUPER-
MAN WHO WAS A STRANGER
TO THEM-- A SUPERMAN
WHO TURNED AGAINST HIS
OLD FRIENDS AND HUNTED
THEM DOWN LIKE ENEMIES!
WHY-- AND HOW THIS
HAPPENED--YOU WILL
LEARN AS YOU GO WITH
BATMAN AND ROBIN INTO...

**SUPERMAN'S
SECRET
KINGDOM**

SUPERMAN'S STEEL-
HARD BODY CRACKED
THE COLUMN! I KNOW
HE WON'T LET IT FALL
ON THE PEOPLE--SO
WHILE HE'S PROPPING
IT UP, ROBIN AND I
CAN ESCAPE!

WHAAT...?

CRA-AA-ACK



THE STARTLING NEWS REACHES EVERYWHERE ...

SUPERMAN IS MISSING! FOR ONE WEEK NOW, HE HAS NOT BEEN SEEN EVEN THOUGH HE HAS BEEN NEEDED FOR SPECIAL EMERGENCIES!



THE NEWS REACHES THE HOME OF SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

DAILY PLANET NEWS REPORTER CLARK KENT IS ALSO MISSING! IT IS PRESUMED THAT HE IS SOMEWHERE SEARCHING FOR **SUPERMAN**, KNOWN TO BE HIS CLOSE FRIEND!

WELL, DICK-- IT'S TIME WE DID SOMETHING ABOUT THIS!



QUICKLY, THE TWO DESCEND TO THE SECRET, SUBTERRANEAN **BAT-CAVE**-- HEADQUARTERS OF **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**!

PEOPLE MIGHT SOON BEGIN TO SUSPECT THAT **SUPERMAN** IS ALSO CLARK KENT! WE'D BETTER FIND **SUPERMAN** BEFORE THAT HAPPENS!



SOON AFTER, THE SWIFT **BATPLANE** WINGS THROUGH THE SKY...



SUPERMAN TOLD US HE WAS ON THE TRAIL OF THE WANTED RACKETEER FLOYD FRISBY-- WHO WAS HIDING IN THE GENERAL AREA OF A SMALL FISHING VILLAGE DOWN SOUTH AMERICA! I WONDER WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED WHEN **SUPERMAN** ARRIVED THERE A WEEK AGO?

UNKNOWN TO THEM, THIS IS WHAT HAPPENED! AS **SUPERMAN** REACHED THE REMOTE FISHING VILLAGE, SUDDENLY A DORMANT VOLCANO CAME TO LIFE!



GREAT SCOTT! THAT VOLCANO BLEW ITS TOP! THE LAVA WILL ENGULF THE VILLAGE!

INSTANTLY, SUPERMAN USED HIS X-RAY VISION TO PROBE THE GROUND SURROUNDING THE VOLCANO...

"CORKING" THE VOLCANO WON'T HELP-- BECAUSE THE PRESSURE WILL CAUSE AN ERUPTION IN ANY ONE OF THE FLAWS IN THE ROCK STRATA IN THIS AREA!

WHAT I'VE GOT TO DO IS USE SUPER-PRESSURE-- MOLD THE ROCK STRATA LIKE AN UNDERGROUND PIPE TO CARRY THE PRESSURE FAR AWAY FROM THE VILLAGE...

THIS SUPERMAN DID, BUT THE VOLCANIC PRESSURE WAS BUILDING UP ALL THE TIME--AND SUDDENLY IT ERUPTED!

BOO-OOH!

IT WAS A LONE FISHERMAN AT SEA WHO SAW SUPERMAN'S HURLING BODY...

MADRE DIOS! IT IS SUPER-HOMBRE--HE IS BEING FLUNG FAR INTO THE JUNGLE! I MUST TELL THE VILLAGE OF THIS!

FISHING BOAT

VILLAGE

VOLCANO

ERUPTION

JUNGLE MOUNTAINS

AND SO IT WAS THAT RACKETEER FLOYD FRISBY HEARD THE NEWS...

THAT EXPLOSION PROBABLY KILLED SUPERMAN! I'VE GOT NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT NOW!

BUT NOW, A WEEK LATER, FRISBY CHANGES HIS MIND AS ...

LOOK!
BAT-HOMBRE
IS COMING!

UH-OH!
BATMAN!

LATER, WHEN BATMAN AND ROBIN
HEAR THE NEWS OF SUPERMAN...

WHY DIDN'T
YOU CONTACT
THE AUTHORITIES
AT ONCE?

HOW COULD WE? WE
HAVE NO RADIO--NO
COMMUNICATION! OUR
VILLAGE IS SO REMOTE
THAT OUR ONLY CONTACT
WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD
IS A MAIL PLANE THAT
COMES HERE ONCE A
MONTH!

NOTHING FOR US TO
DO NOW EXCEPT GO
INTO THAT JUNGLE
AND LOOK FOR
SUPERMAN!

NO--NO! THE JUNGLE
IS SO THICK, IT HAS
NEVER BEEN EXPLORED!
IT IS A PLACE OF
UNKNOWN DANGERS!

OUR FRIEND IS IN
THERE SOMEPLACE!
WE'RE GOING TO
FIND HIM!

I'M GOING TO BE
TRAILING BEHIND
BATMAN AND ROBIN!
IF THE JUNGLE DOESN'T
FINISH THEM--I WILL!

SOON AFTER, BATMAN AND ROBIN
BEGIN HACKING THEIR WAY THROUGH
THE JUNGLE--MOVING SLOWLY, STEADILY
ONWARD ...

... CROSSING UNCHARTED RIVERS ...

THOSE ARE THE
BIGGEST 'GATORS
I'VE EVER
SEEN!

AND THE BIGGEST
TEETH!

...FIGHTING OFF MARAUDING BEASTS...

THEN, AT LAST, SOMEWHERE IN THE DEEP JUNGLE...

A CAT'S NOSE IS SENSITIVE! A BATARANG ON HIS SNOOT WILL TAKE SOME OF THE FIGHT OUT OF THAT JAGUAR!



LOOK! THE TOPS OF THOSE TREES HAVE BEEN SNAPPED OFF! THIS IS WHERE SUPERMAN FELL!

AND LOOK THERE--TREES PUSHED OVER--AS IF HE BLUNDERED INTO THEM IN A DAZE LATER ON!



SUDDENLY...

BATMAN--LOOK OUT! INDIANS!



INSTANTLY, THE IMPETUOUS YOUNGSTER ACTS...

C'MON, BATMAN--MAYBE WE CAN FIGHT OUR WAY THROUGH!



KILL THEM! WE APPROACH IN PEACE--AND THEY WAR UPON US!

WHAT?



WAIT! MY YOUNG FRIEND IS ONLY A BOY--HE THOUGHT YOU MEANT TO HARM US! WE COME HERE IN PEACE, TOO!



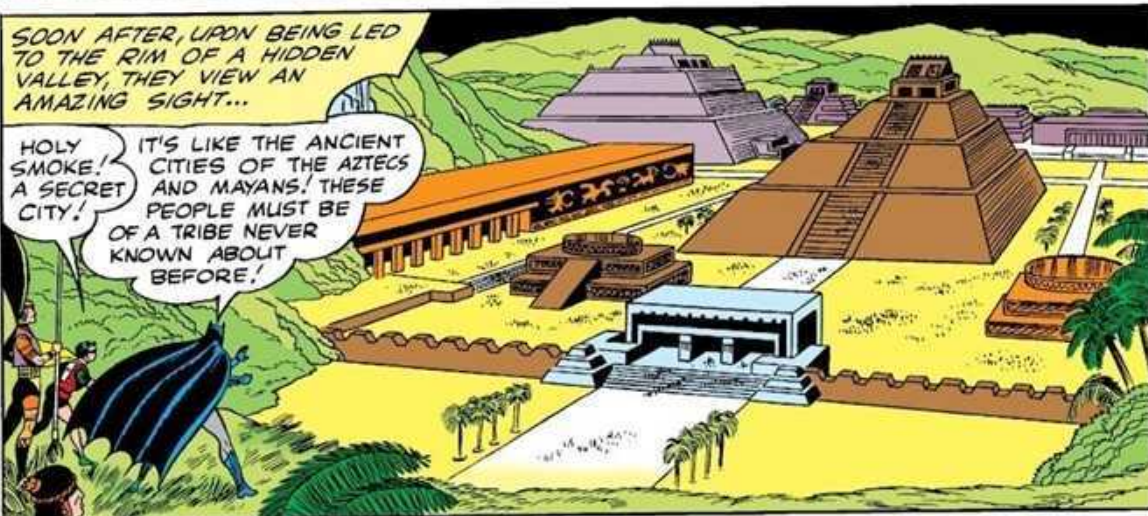
WE SHALL SEE! YOU WILL ACCOMPANY US! OUR KING WILL DECIDE WHAT TO DO WITH YOU!



SOON AFTER, UPON BEING LED TO THE RIM OF A HIDDEN VALLEY, THEY VIEW AN AMAZING SIGHT...

HOLY SMOKE! A SECRET CITY!

IT'S LIKE THE ANCIENT CITIES OF THE AZTECS AND MAYANS! THESE PEOPLE MUST BE OF A TRIBE NEVER KNOWN ABOUT BEFORE!



LATER, THE CAPED MANHUNTERS ARE LED THROUGH A PALACE COURTYARD...

I HAVE TOLD OUR KING OF YOU! HE WILL SEE YOU NOW!



HERE IS OUR MIGHTY KING!

SUPERMAN!





YOU WEAR STRANGE COSTUMES-- BUT IF YOU TRULY COME II PEACE, THEN WE WELCOME YOU!

HUH?



BUT, SUP... AMPH!

O MIGHTY KING, I SPEAK FOR MYSELF AND THIS BOY! WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORDS OF WELCOME!

GOOD! WE WILL SPEAK AGAIN LATER -- AFTER YOU HAVE EATEN AND TAKEN A TOUR OF OUR CITY!



AFTER THEY ARE SHOWN TO A GUEST CHAMBER...

I DON'T UNDERSTAND! WHY IS **SUPERMAN** PRETENDING NOT TO KNOW US?

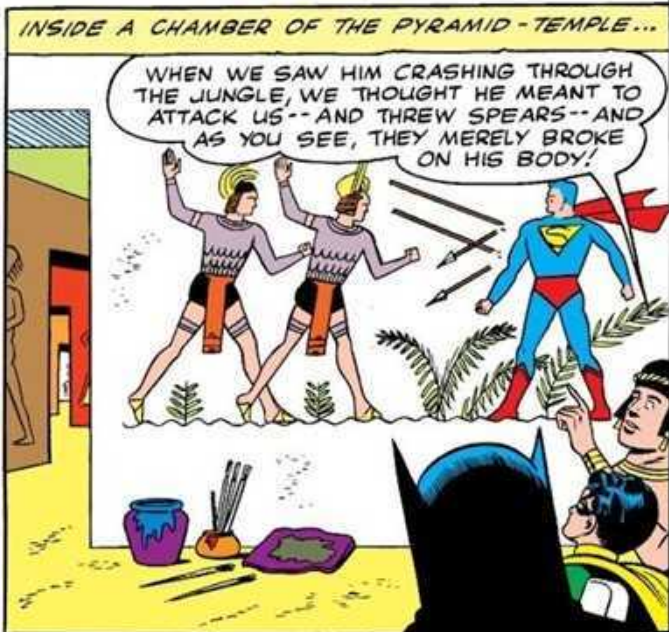
HE'S **NOT** PRETENDING! THE TERRIFIC VOLCANIC ERUPTION OBVIOUSLY AFFECTED HIS MIND--CAUSED **AMNESIA!** **SUPERMAN'S** MEMORY IS GONE!



WHEN A SERVANT ENTERS WITH FOOD...

YOUR KING IS NOT LIKE YOU! HOW IS IT YOU MADE HIM YOUR RULER?

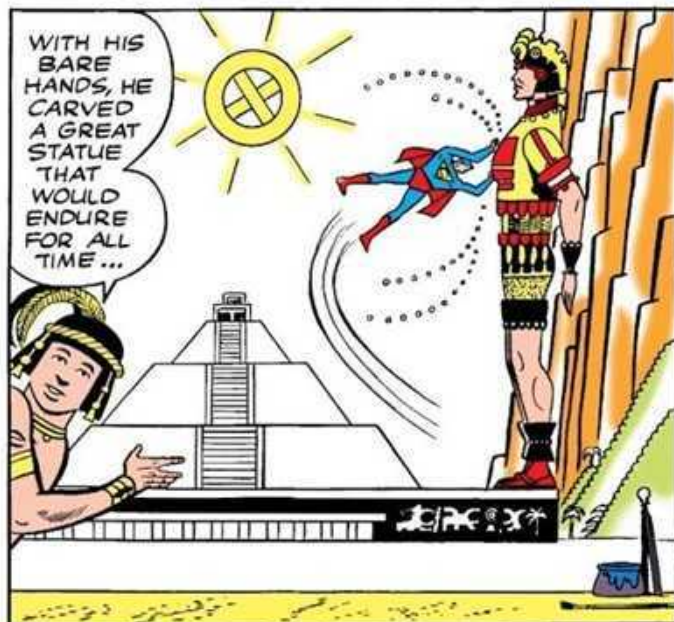
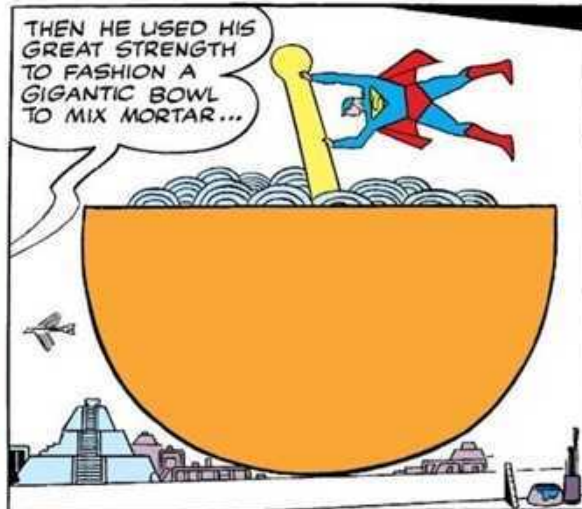
THE PICTURES WE HAVE JUST PAINTED ON THE WALLS OF OUR SACRED PYRAMID CAN EXPLAIN BETTER THAN I CAN! COME--I WILL SHOW YOU...



WHEN WE SAW HIM CRASHING THROUGH THE JUNGLE, WE THOUGHT HE MEANT TO ATTACK US-- AND THREW SPEARS--AND AS YOU SEE, THEY MERELY BROKE ON HIS BODY!



THEN WE KNEW AT ONCE HE WAS THE MIGHTY KING FOR WHOM WE WAITED--FOR OUR LEGENDS FORETOLD THAT ONE DAY A MIGHTY WARRIOR WOULD COME AND REBUILD OUR CRUMBLING CITY...



SOON, THEY COME FACE TO FACE WITH THEIR ACCUSER!

I TELL YOU THESE ARE EVIL MEN-- CRIMINALS! THAT IS WHY THEY COVER THEIR FACES! THAT IS WHY THEY DARE NOT UNMASK!

FLOYD FRISBY!



GOOD THING I SNEAKED INTO THE CITY AND OVERHEARD EVERYTHING! NOW THAT **SUPERMAN** HAS AMNESIA, I'M SAFE FROM HIM! AND NOW, ONCE I SEE **BATMAN'S** SECRET IDENTITY-- I CAN SELL THAT KNOWLEDGE TO THE UNDERWORLD!



UNMASK THEM!

I CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN-- NOT IN FRONT OF FRISBY!



INSTANTLY, **BATMAN** MAKES HIS MOVE!

OKAY **ROBIN**-- LET'S GO!



YIII-II! THE COLUMN-- IT IS FALLING!

I FIGURED IF I SPILLED **SUPERMAN** INTO THE COLUMN, HIS STEEL-HARD BODY WOULD CRACK IT! I KNOW HE WON'T LET IT FALL-- SO THAT'LL GIVE US A FEW MINUTES' HEAD- WAY!



BEFORE THE INDIANS CAN RECOVER FROM THEIR SURPRISE, BATMAN AND ROBIN CRASH THROUGH THEM...

COME ON, ROBIN--LET'S MAKE OURSELVES SCARCE!



SEARCH THE CITY WHILE I CEMENT THE COLUMN INTO PLACE! FIND THE TWO WHO ESCAPED!



MEANWHILE, SUPERMAN IS BUSY PROPPING UP THE FALLING COLUMN...



THERE -- THAT SHOULD HOLD IT FOR THE MOMENT!

NOW, WHILE THERE'S SO MUCH COMMOTION, I CAN LEAVE AND MAYBE CARRY AWAY SOME OF THE GOLD I'VE SEEN AROUND HERE!



I BRAVED MANY DANGERS IN THE JUNGLE TO COME HERE AND WARN YOU OF THOSE MASKED EVIL ONES! SURELY I SHOULD BE REWARDED--WITH SOME GOLD, PERHAPS?

YES! I WILL SEE TO IT AT ONCE!



MEANWHILE, UNOBSERVED, BATMAN AND ROBIN DART INTO THE GREAT PYRAMID...

WE HAVEN'T A CHANCE! IF THE INDIANS DON'T FIND US, SUPERMAN SOON WILL! WE CAN'T HIDE FROM HIS X-RAY VISION FOR LONG!



MOVING DEEPER INTO THE PYRAMID, THEY FIND THEMSELVES IN A FORGOTTEN CHAMBER...

THIS MUST'VE ONCE BEEN A CEREMONIAL CHAMBER!

YES--PROBABLY TO SOME ANCIENT INDIAN GOD! SEE, THERE'S THE SACRED FEATHER ROBE! *HMM!* **ROBIN**-- GET THOSE PAINT POTS FROM THE OTHER CHAMBER! I'VE AN IDEA...



SOMETIME LATER, AS FRISBY RECEIVES HIS REWARD OF GOLD, SUDDENLY...

LOOK!

ALL! THE ANCIENT GOD XOTCL--HE COMES FROM HIS SACRED PLACE!



I COME TO SPEAK OF THIS MAN! HE IS EVIL! HE IS SOUGHT BY MEN OF JUSTICE SO THAT HE MAY STAND TRIAL FOR HIS MANY CRIMES!

HUH? H--HOW COULD YOU KNOW...?



WAIT! ONLY ONE MAN HERE WOULD KNOW THAT! THIS IS A TRICK! TAKE OFF THAT CLOAK, **BATMAN**!



JUST AS YOU SAY, **FRISBY**!!



TAKE HIM! HE'S ALL YOURS NOW!



SPINNING ABOUT, BATMAN INSTANTLY SPRINTS BACK TO THE PYRAMID...

I WILL GO AFTER THE ONE HE CALLED BATMAN! HOLD THIS MAN UNTIL I RETURN!



SOON, AS SUPERMAN BURSTS INTO THE CHAMBER-- HE STARES AT A STARTLING PAINTING...

W-WHAT? THAT SCENE-- THAT FACE-- IT IS SOMEHOW FAMILIAR!



ALL SET, BATMAN! LEAD HIM IN HERE.



IT SHOULD BE. IT'S YOU, SUPERMAN-- YOU IN YOUR SECRET IDENTITY-- CLARK KENT! DO YOU REMEMBER NOW?

CLARK... KENT... THAT NAME...



THE SHOCK OF SEEING HIS INNER-MOST SECRET EXPOSED JOGS SUPERMAN'S MEMORY...

BATMAN! ROBIN! I REMEMBER! I REMEMBER NOW!

BOY! AM I GLAD I TOOK PAINTING LESSONS IN SCHOOL! BUT NOW I'D BETTER HIDE YOUR SECRET WITH SOME MORE PAINT!



LATER, AFTER EXPLAINING EVERYTHING TO SUPERMAN, THEY EMERGE FROM THE PYRAMID TO SEE...

FRISBY-- TRYING TO GET AWAY WITH THE GOLD! HIS OWN GREED IS GOING TO TRIP HIM UP!



INSTANTLY, SUPERMAN SENDS THE HEAT OF HIS X-RAY VISION AT THE SACK AND...



LATER, AFTER SUPERMAN TALKS WITH THE NATIVES...



SOON AFTER, THE FAMED CRIME-FIGHTERS TAKE THEIR LAST LOOK AT WHAT WAS SUPERMAN'S SECRET KINGDOM...



**WORLD'S
FINEST
COMICS**



WORLD'S FINEST

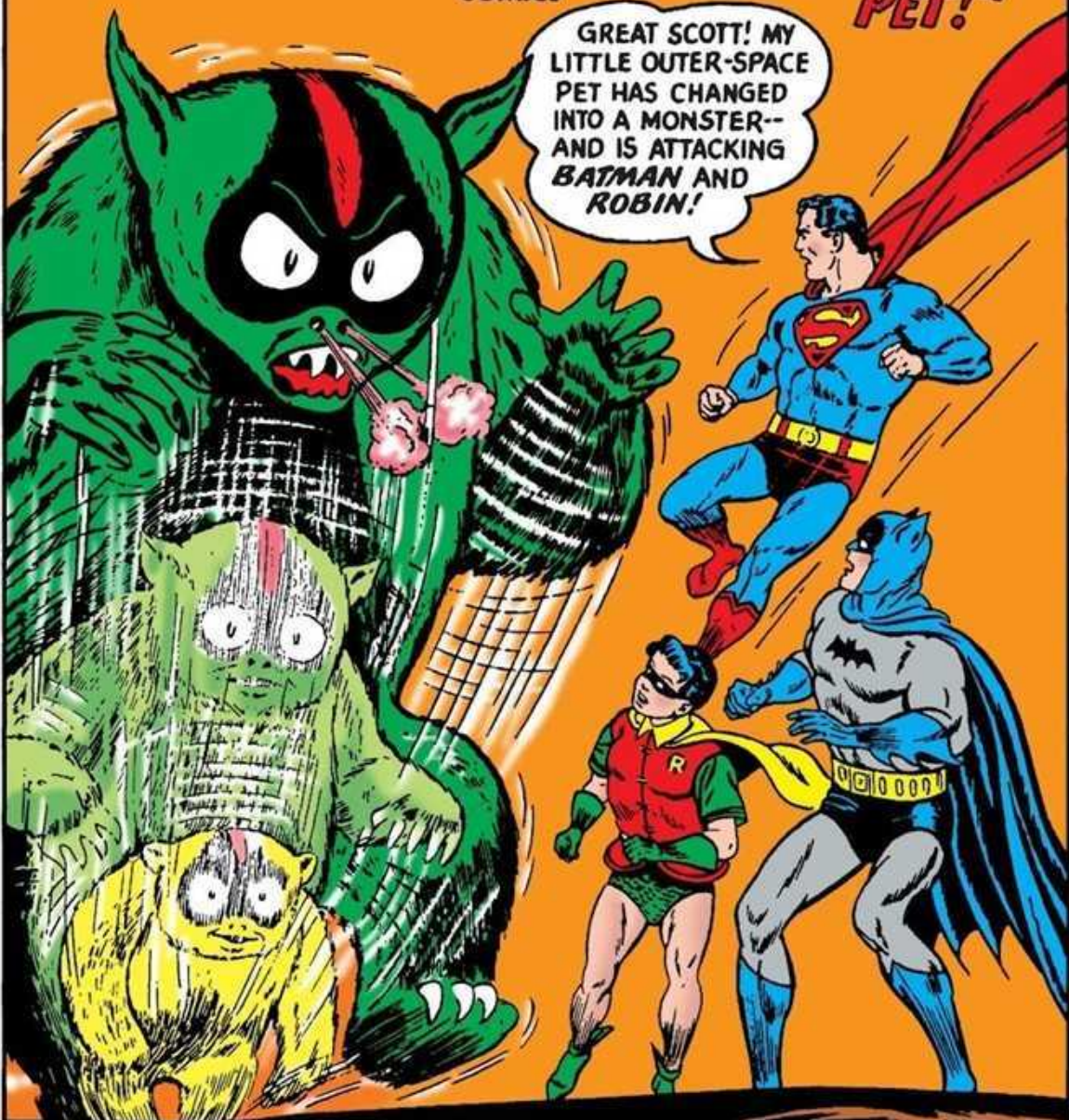
COMICS



SEPT.
NO. 112

*"The
MENACE of
SUPERMAN'S
PET!"*

GREAT SCOTT! MY
LITTLE OUTER-SPACE
PET HAS CHANGED
INTO A MONSTER--
AND IS ATTACKING
BATMAN AND
ROBIN!



YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES

SUPERMAN

and

BATMAN
AND
ROBIN

In one adventure
TOGETHER!

IT WAS TINY... GOOD-NATURED... LOVABLE! IT WAS HUGE... DESTRUCTIVE... HATEFUL! YES--IT WAS A CREATURE OF OPPOSITES-- A JEKYLL AND HYDE PET WHICH CAUSED BATMAN, ROBIN AND SUPERMAN MORE TROUBLE THAN THEY'D SEEN IN A MONTH OF SUNDAYS! THEY THOUGHT THEY'D BE OVERJOYED WHEN THEY RID THE WORLD OF IT... BUT WHAT HAPPENED THEN WAS THE BIGGEST TWIST OF ALL, AS YOU'LL SEE WHEN YOU READ...

the
MENACE
of
SUPERMAN'S
PET

KRAKK

GREAT SCOTT! THAT WEIRD PET OF SUPERMAN'S IS IMITATING HIM AGAIN! SUPERMAN HAD TO BREAK OFF A PIECE OF THAT GIRDER...

AND THE CREATURE SNAPPED OFF THAT STEEL SUPPORT WITH ITS SUPER-POWERS, WEAKENING THE WHOLE TRESTLE!

KRAKK



ONE DAY, AS SUPERMAN COMPLETES A MISSION IN OUTER SPACE...



THIS COMET WAS HURLING DIRECTLY TOWARD EARTH...BUT NOT ANYMORE! NOW... FOR ANOTHER CHORE! I HAVE TO MEET BATMAN AND ROBIN IN GOTHAM CITY...

...TO HELP THEM TRAP THE WRECKERS, A GANG THAT COMMITS ROBBERIES BY CREATING CATASTROPHES AND GETTING AWAY IN THE MIDST OF THE DANGER AND CONFUSION THEY'VE CAUSED!



SO NOT MUCH LATER, THE GREATEST DETECTIVE TEAM, BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER, IS JOINED BY THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL... **SUPERMAN!**



GLAD TO SEE YOU, BATMAN! I ALWAYS ENJOY WORKING WITH YOU AND ROBIN!

JUST IN TIME, PAL!

JUST THEN...



GLEEK!

GREAT SCOTT! WH-WHAT'S THAT? IT... IT FLEW OUT OF YOUR CLOAK!

IT MUST HAVE ATTACHED ITSELF TO ME OUT IN SPACE!

IT SURE IS ATTACHED TO YOU... A CASE OF LOVE AT FIRST FLIGHT! WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH IT?



GLEEK!

I DON'T KNOW! IT'S CUTE, BUT I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR A PET! GUESS I'LL-- WAIT!

MY SUPER-HEARING DETECTS A ROARING NOISE FROM THE GOTHAM CITY DAM... SOUNDS LIKE A BREAK! IT COULD BE THE WORK OF THE WRECKERS! I'LL TEND TO THE DAM, WHILE YOU TWO CHECK TO SEE IF ANY CRIME'S BEING COMMITTED!



AND AS THE TRIO TAKES OFF...

'HA, HA' LOOK AT THAT LITTLE CREATURE IMITATING SUPERMAN! SURE IS CUTE!



ON REACHING THE DAM ...

LOOKS LIKE SABOTAGE, ALL RIGHT! I'LL HAVE TO USE THE FIRST THING THAT COMES TO HAND--THIS GIRDER--TO TRY REPAIRING THE LEAK BEFORE IT WIDENS!



I'LL HEAT THE METAL WITH MY X-RAY VISION, TILL IT'S RED-HOT, MOLTEN STEEL, THEN USE IT TO PATCH THE BREAK!

IT'LL HOLD TIGHT, ONCE IT HARDENS!



MEANWHILE, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN ENTER THE NEARBY GOTHAM MUSIC CENTER, WHERE A SPECTACULAR EXHIBIT IS TAKING PLACE...

THE WRECKERS! THEY HOPED TO GET AWAY UNDER COVER OF THE PANIC CAUSED BY THE BREAKING OF THE DAM! HURRY... THERE'S A FORTUNE IN RARE AND VALUABLE INSTRUMENTS HERE!

BATMAN AND ROBIN! LET'S SCRAM!



AS THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS RACE UP THE STAIRS ...

YOU GO UP, AND WE'LL TAKE THE FASTEST WAY DOWN!

TH- THEY'LL BREAK THEIR NECKS!





AS THE CROOKS FLEE, STARTED BY THEIR UNEXPECTED GOOD FORTUNE...

GREAT SCOTT! THAT PET OF SUPERMAN'S HAS SNAPPED A STEEL SUPPORT AND WEAKENED THE TRESTLE!



AND THERE MAY BE A TRAIN THROUGH HERE ANY MOMENT! WE'LL HAVE TO RACE UP-TRACK AND WARN THE ENGINEER TO STOP!

I DON'T KNOW YET... I'LL THINK ABOUT IT WHILE I REPAIR THE TRESTLE! MEANWHILE... SUPPOSE YOU TWO TRY DISTRACTING HIM SO HE DOESN'T CAUSE MORE TROUBLE IMITATING ME?



LATER, AFTER SUPERMAN HAS FINISHED THE REPAIRS...

WELL, HAVE YOU DECIDED WHAT TO DO WITH HIM?

I SURE HAVE! I'M GOING TO LOCK HIM UP TEMPORARILY IN THAT ABANDONED BUILDING... THEN, WHEN I HAVE MORE TIME, I'LL TRY TO FIND HIS HOME OUT IN SPACE, AND RETURN HIM THERE!



SHORTLY, WHEN BATMAN AND ROBIN RETURN, HAVING WARNED OFF AN ONCOMING TRAIN...

I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING... WHY DID HE DO IT? DON'T YOU SEE THE ANSWER? WHATEVER I DO, HE MIMICS... AND THE LITTLE PEST HAS SUPER-POWERS OF A SORT! HE SAW ME SNAP OFF A STEEL GIRDER TO REPAIR THE DAM...

SO HE SNAPPED THE STEEL SUPPORT! WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH HIM?



BUT NO MATTER WHAT TRICKS BATMAN AND ROBIN TRY...

IT'S NO USE... HE WON'T LOOK AT ANYONE BUT SUPERMAN!

YES... THOUGH, FORTUNATELY, THE CREATURE ISN'T CAUSING ANY DAMAGE THIS TIME!



BUT WHEN THE MAN OF STEEL TRIES...

THE CONFOUNDED CREATURE! HE SENSES I'M TRYING TO GET RID OF HIM, AND DEVELOPED SOME KIND OF MAGNETISM! I CAN'T GET HIM OFF MY HAND! WHAT NOW?

WHAT'S WRONG?

GLEEK!





TWO LINES SNAKE OUT, AND...

BUT NO SOONER
DO THEY REACH
SAFETY THAN...



HE'S MAKING FOR THE CITY! WHO KNOWS WHAT DESTRUCTION HE'LL CAUSE, WITH HIS TERRIBLE TEMPER AND INCREDIBLE STRENGTH? WE *MUST* TRY TO STOP HIM!



IT IS AT THIS MOMENT, HOWEVER, THAT SUPERMAN RETURNS, AND...

GREAT SCOTT! MY LITTLE, MISCHIEVOUS PET GONE... AND THAT MENACING BEAST IN HIS PLACE! I'LL HAVE TO...



WHAPP

...STOP HIM!



DAZED THE BEAST STAGGERS BACK--BUT AS HE STARES AT HIS ATTACKER...



AT ONCE, ANOTHER SERIES OF QUICK CHANGES, UNTIL...



BUT WHEN HE IS NEAR ME, HE'S ALSO A MENACE...IMITATING WHATEVER I DO! I CAN'T LEAVE HIM-- I CAN'T STAY WITH HIM... AND I HAVEN'T THE TIME TO SEARCH FOR HIS HOME TILL WE CATCH THE WRECKERS!



ALL AT ONCE...

THOSE THICK CLOUDS OF SMOKE...THE WRECKERS MAY HAVE STRUCK AGAIN!

GO AHEAD WITHOUT ME... I'LL JOIN YOU SHORTLY!



AS THE BATMOBILE ROARS OFF...



SOON, IN THE HEART OF GOTHAM CITY...



INSTANTLY LATER, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN PLUNGE INSIDE, WEARING PLASTIC GAS MASKS...

THAT FIREMAN... OVERCOME BY FUMES! HIS MASK MUST HAVE BEEN DEFECTIVE! WE'LL HAVE TO DRAG HIM OUT... TRY TO REVIVE HIM!

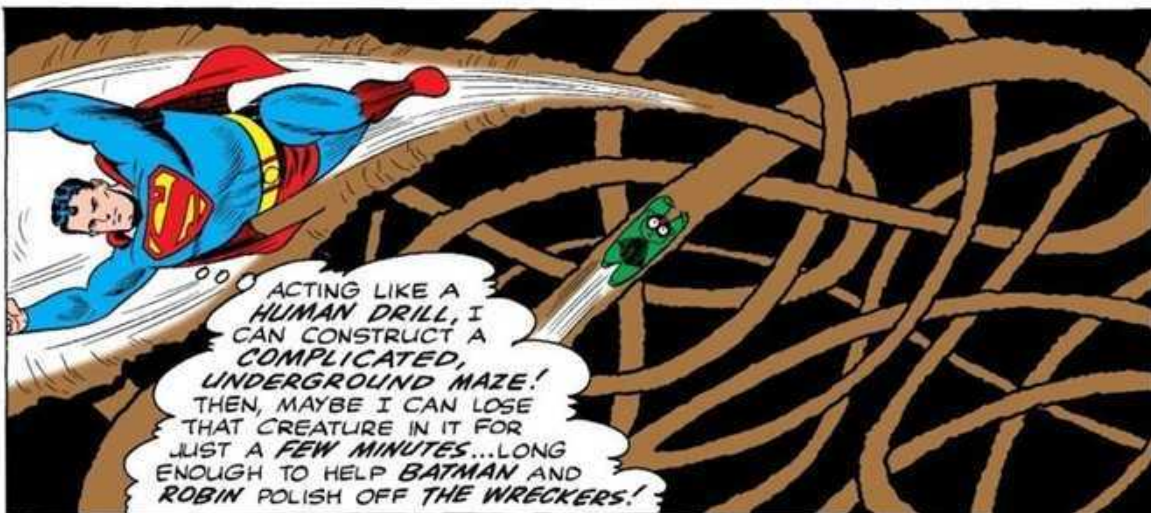


MEANWHILE...

HERE WE GO LOOP-THE-LOOP, IN A NEW VERSION OF "FOLLOW THE LEADER!"



ACTING LIKE A HUMAN DRILL, I CAN CONSTRUCT A COMPLICATED, UNDERGROUND MAZE! THEN, MAYBE I CAN LOSE THAT CREATURE IN IT FOR JUST A FEW MINUTES...LONG ENOUGH TO HELP BATMAN AND ROBIN POLISH OFF THE WRECKERS!



SHORTLY...

CHEMICAL

THAT SHOULD KEEP HIM BUSY! EVEN IF HE HAS ANOTHER TANTRUM, AND CHANGES INTO A MONSTER, IT WON'T MATTER... AS LONG AS HE'S LOST IN THAT UNDERGROUND LABYRINTH!



A SPLIT SECOND LATER, IN THE FUME-FILLED BUILDING...

WHOOSH!

ONE BLAST OF SUPER-BREATH, AND OUT GOES THE FIRE! NOW BATMAN AND ROBIN CAN CONCENTRATE ON THE CROOKS!





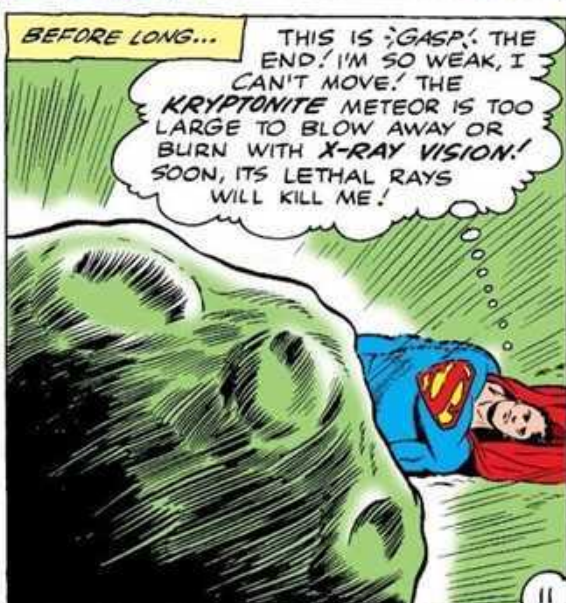
AS THE GANG CAR SPEEDS AHEAD...



AND AS THE GANG TRIES A GETAWAY
ON FOOT...



ALAS, SUPERMAN HAS JUST MET WITH A
DISASTER OF HIS OWN...



NO ONE ON EARTH WILL EVER KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO ME AND--*WAIT!* I DON'T UNDERSTAND...THE DEADLY RAYS FROM THAT *KRYPTONITE*... GROWING FAINTER--LESS HARMFUL!



MY PET! SOMEHOW, HE HAS THE POWER TO *EXTRACT* THE DEADLY RAYS FROM THE METEOR! HE'S *ABSORBING THEM*... AND, SOMEHOW, THEY SEEM TO HAVE A *WEAKENING EFFECT* ON HIM!



INDEED, AS THE *KRYPTONITE* CHANGES TO HARMLESS GREEN STONE...

HE *‘GULP!’* ABSORBED ALL THE HARMFUL RAYS AND *‘SOB!’* SACRIFICED HIS LIFE FOR ME! HE WAS A STRANGE CREATURE *‘CHOKE!’* AND A MORE DEVOTED PET THAN I EVER REALIZED!



AND SO, BACK ON EARTH, THAT EVENING...

SOMEHOW, FOR SOME MYSTERIOUS REASON, HE LOVED ME... WE'LL NEVER FORGET THIS ADVENTURE... AND THOUGH HIS AFFECTION CAUSED US ENDLESS TROUBLE, OR YOUR STRANGE AND LOYAL PET! IT COST THAT CREATURE HIS LIFE!



**WORLD'S
FINEST
COMICS**



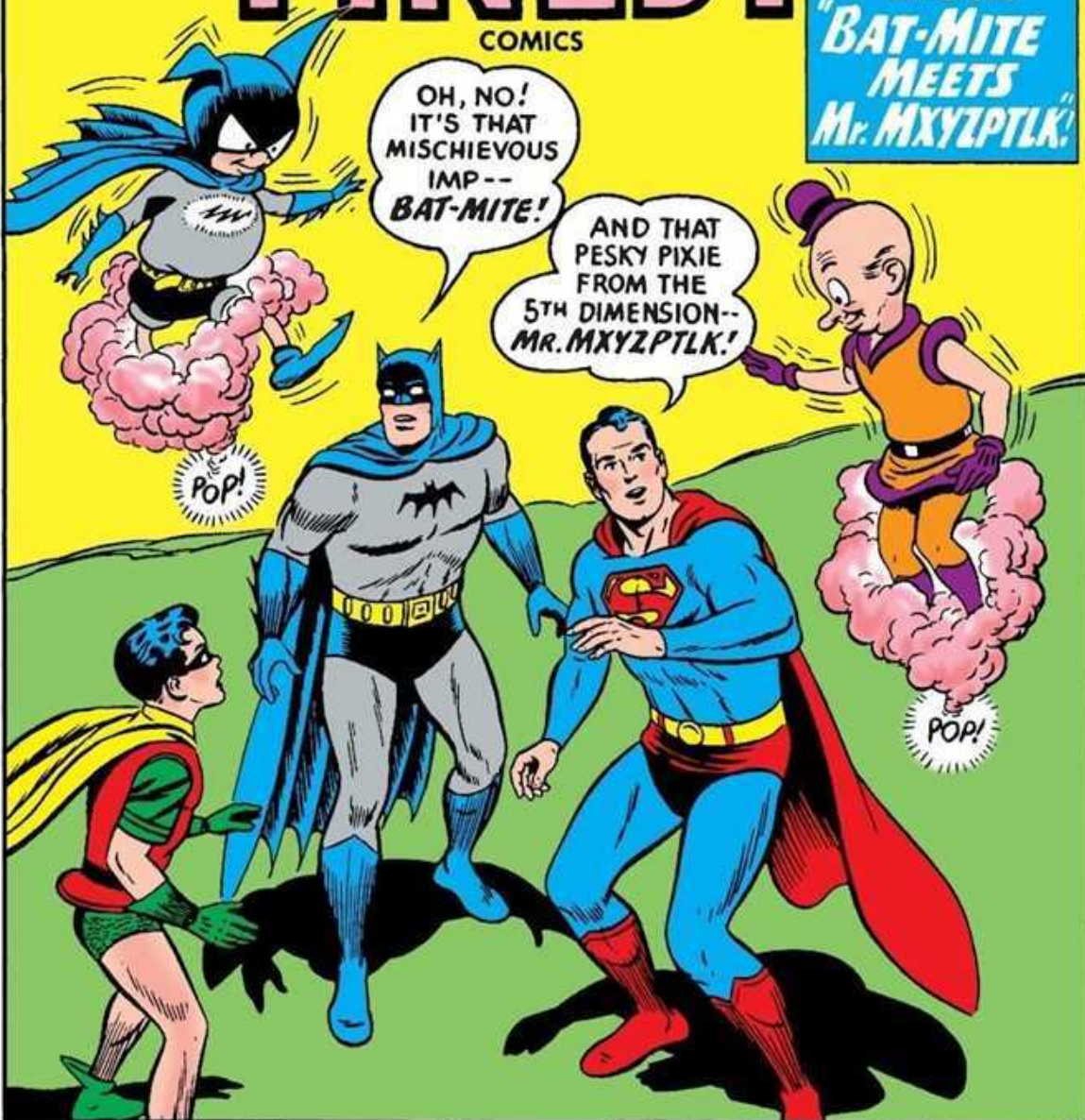
NOV.
NO. 113



WORLD'S FINEST

COMICS

PERIL LOOMS FOR
**SUPERMAN,
BATMAN
and ROBIN**
WHEN...
**"BAT-MITE
MEETS
Mr. MXYZPTLK!"**



YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES

SUPERMAN
REALITY & FANTASY

and

BATMAN
AND
ROBIN

IN ONE
ADVENTURE
Together!

SUPERMAN,
WE'LL HAVE
TO STOP
THIS SILLY
DUEL OF
THEIRS!

RIGHT, BATMAN!
IF THEY DON'T
STOP USING
THEIR POWERS
ON EACH OTHER,
THEY'LL TURN
THE CITY
TOPSY-
TURVY!

REMEMBER
BAT-MITE,
THAT ELFIN
CHARACTER
FROM ANOTHER
DIMENSION WHOSE
GREATEST PLEASURE
IS USING HIS ZANY
POWERS TO MAKE THINGS
TOUGH FOR **BATMAN** AND
ROBIN? AND HOW ABOUT
MR. MXYZPTLK?... REMEMBER
HIM? **HIS** GREATEST DELIGHT
IS USING WEIRD MAGIC TO
PESTER **SUPERMAN**!
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE
TWO GET TOGETHER?... DON'T
ASK! IT'S INDESCRIBABLE, AS
YOU'LL SEE FOR YOURSELF
WHEN...

BAT-MITE
MEETS
MR. MXYZPTLK

ONE DAY, A GROTESQUE, GIGANTIC THING OF METAL LUMBERS THROUGH GOTHAM CITY STREETS, HALTS BEFORE A BANK, AND...



MOMENTS LATER, SUMMONED BY THE BAT-SIGNAL, TWO CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS ARRIVE ON THE SCENE...



MEANWHILE, INSIDE THE ROBOT'S HEAD...



THE TWO MASKED FIGURES SWING TO THE TOP OF ONE OF THE DISPLAYS, AND...



... AND TURN INTO A DEEP MORASS OF STICKY SUBSTANCE! THE MORE THE ROBOT TRIES TO STEP OUT, THE MORE ENTANGLED IT'LL GET!



BUT AN INSTANT LATER...

GREAT SCOTT!...IT HAS CONCEALED JETS! THAT THING CAN FLY!



AT THIS VERY MOMENT, HOWEVER, NOT FAR AWAY...

BATMAN AND ROBIN DON'T KNOW I WAS SENT TO GOTHAM CITY AS CLARK KENT, TODAY, ON A STORY ASSIGNMENT. I CAN TAKE CARE OF THAT FLYING ROBOT FROM HERE!



I'LL TEAR THIS ROCK FREE AND HURL IT HARD ENOUGH TO SMASH THAT THING TO SMITHERS!



NEXT INSTANT...

SOMEONE HURLED A GIANT BOULDER AT IT! THAT MUST BE...



SUPERMAN! HE'S HERE-- IN GOTHAM CITY! WHAT A BREAK!

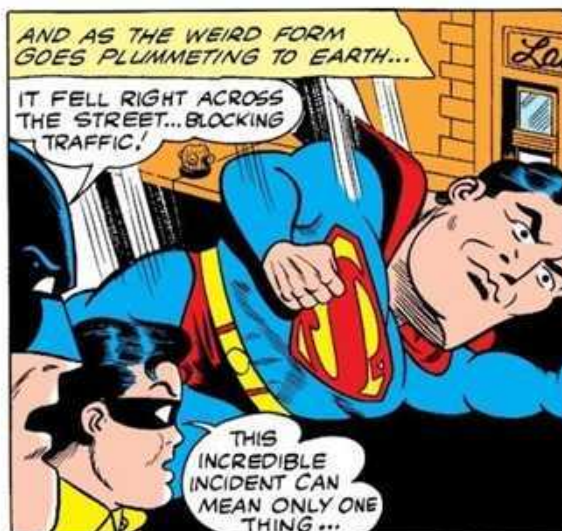
BUT SUDDENLY...



TH-THE ROCK!... IT'S CHANGING INTO A COMIC FIGURE--OF SUPERMAN!

AND AS THE WEIRD FORM GOES PLUMMETING TO EARTH...

IT FELL RIGHT ACROSS THE STREET...BLOCKING TRAFFIC!



THIS INCREDIBLE INCIDENT CAN MEAN ONLY ONE THING...

OUR PESKY 'PAL' FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION!

Y-YOU MEAN... BAT-MITE?

HE SURE DOES! GREETINGS, BATMAN AND ROBIN!



POP



SHORTLY...

THE ROBOT'S COMING THIS WAY! ATTACH YOUR **BAT-LINE** TO THE SCAFFOLDING, AS I'M DOING, AND SWING BACK AND FORTH TILL YOU WORK UP A LOT OF MOMENTUM!

WHAT'S YOUR PLAN, **BATMAN**?

THE STATUE HASN'T BEEN FASTENED TO THE BASE YET, SO...

I GET IT! IT MAY WORK AT THAT!

AS THE ROBOT APPROACHES, THE DARING DUO RAMS THE HOLLOW STATUE WITH TERRIFIC FORCE...

KERNHANNG

IT'S WORKING, **BATMAN**! WE'RE TOPPLING THE ROBOT OVER!

SHOULD KNOCK OUT THE CROOKS INSIDE, TOO!

YES, THEY'LL BE EASY PICKINGS NOW!

BUT AT THAT INSTANT...

HELP!

GREAT SCOTT! OVER AT THE BOTANIC GARDENS... DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?

GULP! I G-GUESS I DO!

CRASH



WELL, I USE MY MAGIC TO **ANNOY SUPERMAN...** AND I DON'T WANT YOU MUSCLING IN ON MY TERRITORY. LEAVE HIM ALONE... I'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM!

OH, YEAH? I'LL DO AS I PLEASE... EVEN IF IT MEANS **STOPPING** YOUR PAL **SUPERMAN!**

WE'LL SEE ABOUT **THAT!** MY MAGIC IS STRONGER THAN YOURS, AND I'LL **MAKE** YOU STOP! SEE THAT SYRUP PITCHER?

FOR REAL
MAPLE SYRUP
USE
LOGGER'S
BRAND

FELLOWS... PLEASE-- NO...



A TOUCH OF MY MAGIC AND **REAL SYRUP...** ENOUGH TO STICK YOU IN THAT SPOT FOR HOURS!

OH, YEAH? A TOUCH OF MY MAGIC...

SQUUSH!

...AND AWAY IT GOES!

AND I'LL HAVE TO CLEAN IT ALL UP, WITH A TOUCH OF MY **SUPER-POWERS**, BEFORE THE STREETS BECOME LIKE A STRIP OF FLYPAPER!



THIS MAY LOOK A LITTLE FUNNY, BUT IT'S THE **QUICKEST** WAY TO **CLEAR UP** THIS MESS!



USING MY **STEEL-STRONG HAIR** AS A **MOP**, I CAN SCRUB UP EVERY SPOT OF THIS STICKY SYRUP!

MEANWHILE, THE ZANY DUEL OF MAGICAL POWERS GROWS HOTTER AND HOTTER...

PLEASE... STOP... BEFORE YOU TURN THE CITY TOSY-TURVY!

I'LL ONLY STOP WHEN **HE** AGREES TO STOP PESTERING **SUPERMAN!** SEE THAT SMOKESTACK?...



I'LL JUST AIM IT AT **YOU!**

HMFF! A LOT OF GOOD **THAT** WILL DO YOU!



SMOKE INTO SMOKE RINGS--AND ALL OF THEM ...



...OVER YOU! WHAT'S MORE, THEY'RE **SOLID** NOW! YOU CAN'T MOVE A MUSCLE!



SO WHAT? I CAN CHANGE THEM TO **LIGHTNING BOLTS**...



...ALL AIMED AT **YOU!**

GRRR!... YOUR MAGIC IS AS STRONG AS MINE! WELL... I DON'T THINK YOU'RE AS **CLEVER**...

BAM

BAM
BAM

...SO I'LL JUST DISAPPEAR UNTIL I THINK UP A SCHEME TO OUTWIT YOU!

POP!

IN THAT CASE, SO WILL I!

IF YOU KEEP ME GUESSING, I'LL DO THE SAME TO YOU!

AND WE CAN'T SEE EITHER OF THEM -- OR GUESS WHERE THEY'LL POP UP NEXT... OR WHAT TROUBLE THEY'LL CREATE!

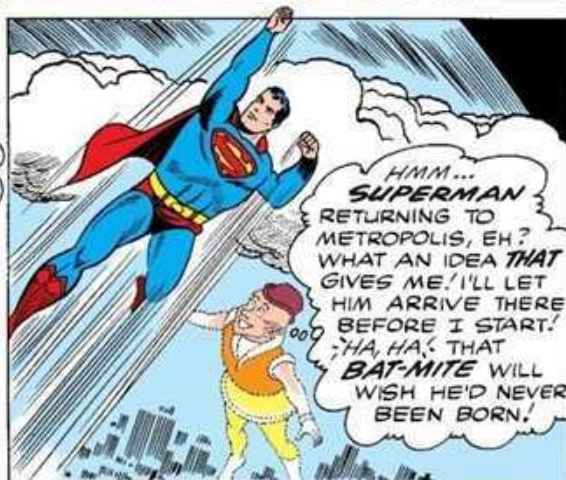
"WHEW!"
WHAT A DAY THIS TURNED OUT TO BE!

POP!

PRESENTLY, WHEN **SUPERMAN** RETURNS, AND HEARS WHAT HAS HAPPENED...

THERE'S ONLY ONE THING FOR US TO DO... **SEPARATE!** I'LL HANDLE MR. MXYZPTLK AS BEST I CAN, AND YOU'LL HANDLE **BAT-MITE!** AT LEAST, WE WON'T HAVE THE PROBLEM OF COPING WITH THEM TOGETHER!

YOU'RE RIGHT, **SUPERMAN!**



HMM... **SUPERMAN** RETURNING TO METROPOLIS, EH? WHAT AN IDEA THAT GIVES ME! I'LL LET HIM ARRIVE THERE BEFORE I START! HA, HA, THAT **BAT-MITE** WILL WISH HE'D NEVER BEEN BORN!

SOMEWHAT LATER, AS **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** PATROL AN ISOLATED PART OF **GOTHAM CITY**...

GREAT GUNS!...
WH-WHAT'S THAT?





WHATEVER IT IS, IT CAN SET THE WHOLE CITY AFIRE!

YES! STOP IT, BATMAN AND ROBIN... FAST!

SURE... GO AHEAD AND DO JUST THAT!

HA, HA! WHAT A CUNNING LITTLE DEVIL I AM! SO BAT-MITE WANTS THEM TO DO HEROIC DEEDS! WELL... MY MAGIC MADE THAT MONSTER FOR THEM TO PRACTICE ON! BEFORE I'M THROUGH, THEY'LL BE PLEADING FOR SUPER-MAN'S HELP...



...BECAUSE I'LL KEEP ON CREATING DANGERS TOO HOT FOR THEM TO HANDLE, TILL BAT-MITE PROMISES TO LET SUPERMAN ALONE!

EASY, ROBIN... WE MUSTN'T PANIC AND DO SOMETHING RASH!

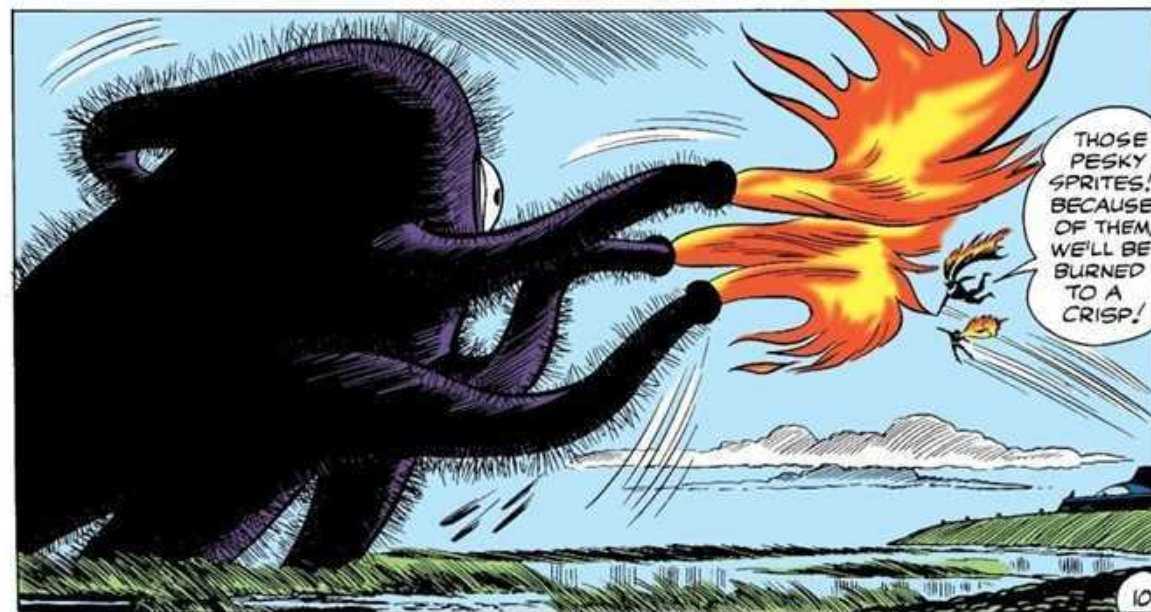
BAH! I SEE I'LL HAVE TO TAKE A HAND HERE...

ABRUPTLY...



EYEW! WE'RE BEING WHIRLED THROUGH THE AIR -- RIGHT TOWARD THAT WEIRD BEAST! BAT-MITE!... STOP!

I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO SEE WHAT INGENUOUS STUNT THEY'LL USE NOW -- UNEXPECTEDLY FACE-TO-FACE WITH THAT MONSTER!



THOSE PESKY SPRITES! BECAUSE OF THEM, WE'LL BE BURNED TO A CRISP!

BUT ALL AT ONCE...

THANK GOODNESS!...
A SUDDEN GUST OF
WIND-- SAVING US!



BUT THAT GUST OF WIND WAS NONE
OTHER THAN-- THE MAN OF STEEL!

LUCKY I DECIDED TO KEEP WATCH ON
THEM WITH MY **TELESCOPIC VISION!**
THOSE IMPS ALMOST COST THEM THEIR
LIVES-- BUT NOW THEY'LL LAND
IN THE RIVER, SWIM
SAFELY TO
SHORE...



WHAMP!

...WHILE I
KNOCK THIS
THING OUT...



...AND TOSS
IT INTO
SPACE!

'HA, HA!' THAT'S
ONE TIME **BAT-MITE**
DIDN'T INTERFERE
WITH **SUPERMAN!**
A FEW MORE SPECIAL
MXYZPTLK CREATIONS,
AND HE'LL BE **GLAD** OF
SUPERMAN'S HELP
TO **BATMAN** AND
ROBIN! HE WON'T
MUSCLE IN ON
MY TERRITORY
AGAIN!



A LITTLE LATER, WHEN **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**
EMERGE FROM THE WATER ...

YESSIR--I'LL TEACH
YOU NOT TO PESTER
SUPERMAN!

ME... A **PEST?**
WHAT AN ODD
NOTION! I NEVER
THOUGHT OF MYSELF
AS A **PEST** BEFORE...
BUT THAT GIVES
ME AN IDEA!

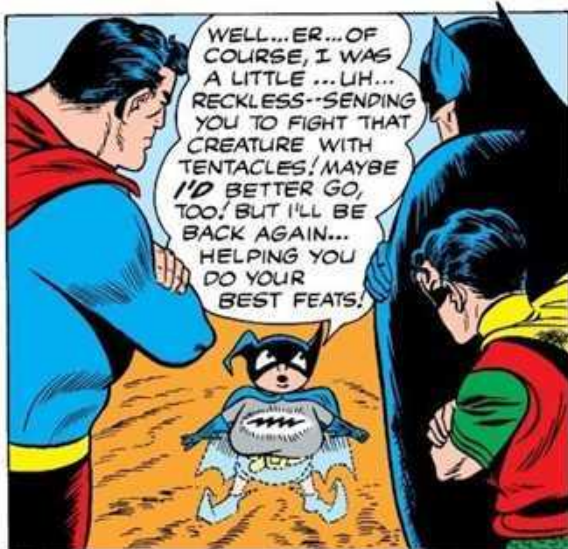


JUST WAIT
TILL YOU
TANGLE WITH
MY **NEXT**
CREATION!

WHATEVER HE DOES,
DON'T INTERFERE! LET
ME HANDLE IT!







**WORLD'S
FINEST
COMICS**



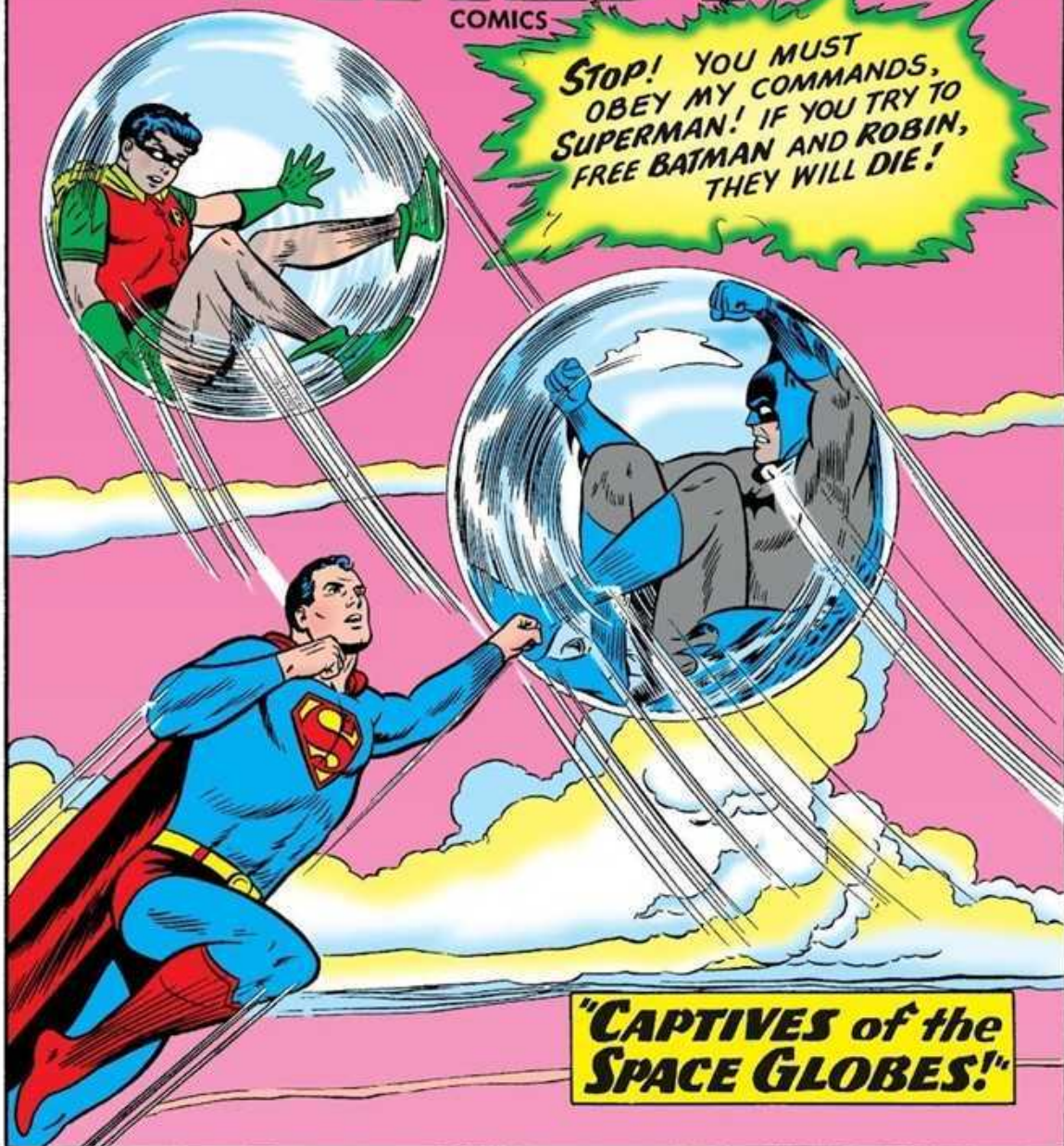
WORLD'S FINEST

COMICS



DEC.
NO. 114

**STOP! YOU MUST
OBEY MY COMMANDS,
SUPERMAN! IF YOU TRY TO
FREE BATMAN AND ROBIN,
THEY WILL DIE!**



**"CAPTIVES of the
SPACE GLOBES!"**

YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES

SUPERMAN
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

and

BATMAN
AND
ROBIN

IN ONE
ADVENTURE
Together!

FROM OUT OF NOWHERE, THE SPHERES ARRIVED TO IMPRISON BATMAN AND ROBIN! NOT EVEN SUPERMAN COULD FREE THEM, AS THEY FLOATED HELPLESSLY TO A WORLD MILLIONS OF MILES AWAY! BUT AN EVEN GREATER SURPRISE WAS IN STORE FOR THE TRIO, WHEN THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS BECAME...

CAPTIVES of the SPACE GLOBES

WITHOUT MY SUPER-POWERS,
I'M BARELY A MATCH
FOR THESE CRIMINAL
ALIENS!

YES...IT'S
A LUCKY THING
ROBIN AND I
BECAME
SUPER-MEN
ON THIS
WORLD!



ONE DAY, IN GOTHAM CITY...

SUPERMAN
SHOULD BE HERE
SOON...HE AGREED
TO APPEAR WITH US
IN A BRIEF FILM
APPEALING FOR FUNDS
FOR THE **GOTHAM**
CITY ORPHANAGE!



SUDDENLY, AS THE MASKED PAIR CROSSES THE STREET...

L-LOOK!...
BATMAN AND
ROBIN--BEING
ENCLOSED IN
PLASTIC
GLOBES!

IT MUST BE SOME
STUNT CONNECTED
WITH THAT MOVIE
THEY'RE MAKING!



BUT INSIDE ONE GLOBE...

WH-WHAT'S
HAPPENING? WHERE
DID THESE GLOBES
COME FROM? CAN'T...
GET... FREE!



BATMAN!
ROBIN!
COME BACK!
THIS HAS
NOTHING TO
DO WITH THE
MOVIE WE
PLANNED!

UP...UP...UP... THEY DRIFT--AND
WHEN **SUPERMAN** ARRIVES...

IS THIS SOME
KIND OF GAG?
WHAT ARE
THEY DOING
UP THERE?

I DON'T KNOW...
BUT I'M SURE
GOING TO
FIND OUT!



YES! FOLLOW
THEM, SUPERMAN...
BUT YOU WILL NOT
BE ABLE TO
FREE
THEM!

WHAT--?
WHERE'D
THAT
VOICE
COME
FROM?



GRIMLY, THE MAN OF STEEL SPEEDS UPWARD, UNTIL...

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT VOICE MEANT... BUT IT SHOULDN'T BE HARD FOR ME TO SMASH THOSE GLOBES AND FREE MY FRIENDS!



BUT AS HE READIES A MIGHTY PUNCH...

WAIT, SUPERMAN! BEFORE YOU ACT RASHLY, TRY A LITTLE EXPERIMENT!

THAT VOICE AGAIN!



SMASH OPEN THAT ONE -- WITH THE WORTHLESS STATUE INSIDE AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS!

VERY WELL...



AS STEEL-MUSCLED BICEPS STRIKE A RINGING BLOW...

GREAT SCOTT! IT BLEW UP WHEN I HIT IT!



EXACTLY... THAT PLASTIC IS AN EXPLOSIVE WHICH DETONATES WHEN HIT HARD ENOUGH! WHAT HAPPENED TO THE STATUE WILL HAPPEN TO BATMAN AND ROBIN, IF YOU TRY TO FREE THEM!

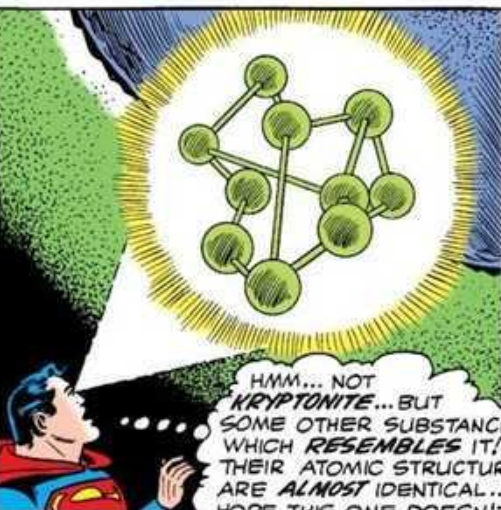
WH-WHO ARE YOU? WHY HAVE YOU IMPRISONED THEM?



NO ANSWER...AND THE GLOBES ARE SPEEDING AWAY FASTER THAN EVER--DEEP INTO SPACE! SINCE I CAN'T FREE THEM, I MUST FOLLOW THEM!

MUCH LATER, FAR OUT IN THE VOID...

THEY'RE APPROACHING A STRANGE PLANET...A PLANET SURROUNDED BY A GREEN MIST! IF THAT'S KRYPTONITE DUST, I'LL BE POWERLESS TO HELP THEM! BETTER CHECK WITH MY MICROSCOPIC VISION...



HMM... NOT KRYPTONITE...BUT SOME OTHER SUBSTANCE WHICH RESEMBLES IT! THEIR ATOMIC STRUCTURES ARE ALMOST IDENTICAL...I--I HOPE THIS ONE DOESN'T AFFECT ME!



THAT'S THEIR OR DESTINATION, ALL RIGHT! NOW, MAYBE I'LL FIND OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING!



WELCOME TO ZORON, SUPERMAN! I AM ALBA, A CITIZEN OF THIS PLANET! I ENCLOSED BATMAN AND ROBIN IN THOSE GLOBES TO FORCE YOU TO FOLLOW THEM HERE!

OUR ADVANCED SCIENCE ENABLED ME TO MAKE MY SPACESHIP AND ME INVISIBLE!

SO YOU'RE THE VOICE FROM NOWHERE! WELL-- YOU'VE GOT ME HERE... NOW SUPPOSE YOU TELL ME *WHY!*



I HAVE DONE THESE THINGS BECAUSE I NEED YOUR HELP! YOU SEE, THE PEOPLE OF MY PLANET HAVE BEEN PEACEFUL FOR YEARS! WE HAVE ALWAYS HAD ENOUGH FOOD, CLOTHING AND SHELTER...



"...BECAUSE CENTURIES AGO, OUR FOREFATHERS MADE FACTORIES WHICH PRODUCE THESE THINGS AUTOMATICALLY!"

LIFE IS GOOD FOR US HERE ON ZORON!

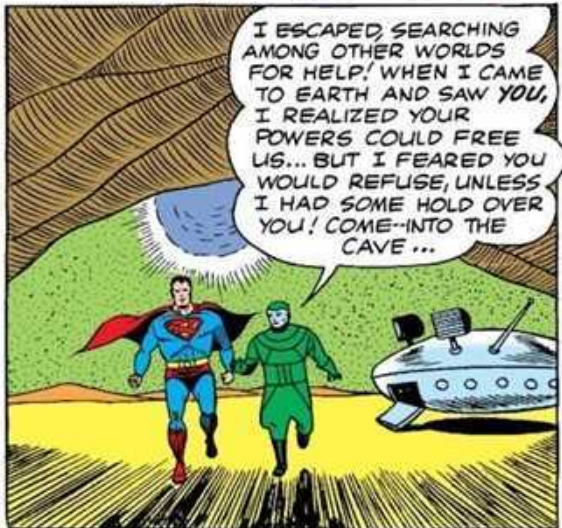


"THEN THE BAXIANS CAME!"

YOU AND YOUR PEOPLE WILL NOW WORK FOR *US*! IF YOU REFUSE TO OBEY US, WE WILL LAY WASTE TO YOUR CITIES!



I ESCAPED, SEARCHING AMONG OTHER WORLDS FOR HELP! WHEN I CAME TO EARTH AND SAW YOU, I REALIZED YOUR POWERS COULD FREE US... BUT I FEARED YOU WOULD REFUSE, UNLESS I HAD SOME HOLD OVER YOU! COME--INTO THE CAVE...



THESE ARE SOME OF MY FRIENDS... WE NEED YOUR HELP DESPERATELY!

I BELIEVE YOU, ALBA... RELEASE *MY* TWO FRIENDS, AND WE'LL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN!



NO, EARTHMAN!... WE'RE STILL NOT SURE WE CAN TRUST YOU! WE NEED YOUR HELP SO DESPERATELY, WE MUST KEEP YOUR FRIENDS AS *HOSTAGES*, TILL YOU EXPEL THE BAXIANS FROM ZORON!

WELL... RATHER THAN WASTE TIME ARGUING--SHOW ME THE WAY, ALBA!



SHORTLY, ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF A ZORIAN CITY...

THERE ARE SOME BAXIANS, FORCING OUR PEOPLE INTO OUR FACTORIES!

OKAY...LET'S SEE HOW EASY--OR HARD--THEY'LL BE TO HANDLE!



BUT WHEN SUPERMAN TAKES OFF...

STRANGE... I--I TRIED TO FLY AND COULDN'T! WH-WHAT COULD BE WRONG? OH, WELL--I'LL WORRY ABOUT THAT LATER!



SUDDENLY, AS ANOTHER BAXIAN AIMS A RAY-GUN AT THE MAN OF STEEL...

TH-THAT FORCE...IT'S SENT ME REELING BACK! I...I'M NO MATCH FOR IT! I'D BETTER GET ALBA AND RETURN TO THE CAVE... FAST!



SUPERMAN SPEEDS AWAY--AND SOON...

THAT GREEN MIST...IT DIDN'T WEAKEN ME AS KRYPTONITE DOES, BUT IT DEPRIVED ME OF ALL MY *SUPER-POWERS*! WE'D BETTER GET BACK TO YOUR CAVE!

QUICK--FOLLOW ME! THERE IS AN UNDERGROUND PASSAGE, WHERE THE BAXIANS WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE US!



AWHILE LATER...

IT LOOKS LIKE AN IMPOSSIBLE TASK, BUT WE'LL HAVE TO STRIVE FOR OUR FREEDOM WITHOUT YOUR HELP! MEANWHILE, I WILL RELEASE YOUR FRIENDS, AND TAKE YOU ALL BACK TO EARTH IN MY SPACE-SHIP!

THIS CHEMICAL IS THE ONLY SUBSTANCE IN THE UNIVERSE THAT CAN DISSOLVE THIS PLASTIC... **BATMAN AND ROBIN** WILL BE FREE AND UNHARMED IN A MOMENT!

THEN, AS THEY LEAVE THE CAVE...

**BATMAN AND ROBIN!!
LOOK OUT! THAT'S
A DEADLY
ANTHKAR!**

PRESENTLY...

INSTINCTIVELY, THE TWO LEAP SIDWARDS, AND...

**GOLLY!... WE
FLEW 'WAY
'WAY UP!
WHAT
HAPPENED?**

**I'VE GOT A HUNCH... AND
I'LL TEST IT AS SOON
AS THAT ANTHKAR
GOES AWAY!**

**I WAS
RIGHT!
SOMETHING
HAS GIVEN
US SUPER-
POWERS ON
THIS PLANET!
MAYBE THE
PURPLE SUN...**

**OR MAYBE EVEN
THAT KRYPTONITE
VARIANT! IT'S
POSSIBLE THAT THE
VERY MIST WHICH
DEPRIVED ME OF
MY POWERS GAVE
YOU YOURS!**

IN THAT CASE, NOW THAT WE HAVE SUPER-POWERS ON THIS PLANET, WE MIGHT AS WELL USE THEM TO GET RID OF THOSE INVADERS!

WAIT FOR ME!

THANK YOU, EARTHLINGS! HOW FOOLISH I WAS TO NOT RELEASE YOU!



LATER, IN THE CITY...

LOOK! THOSE STRANGERS... THEY FLY-- AND OUR RAY GUNS DO NOT HARM THEM!

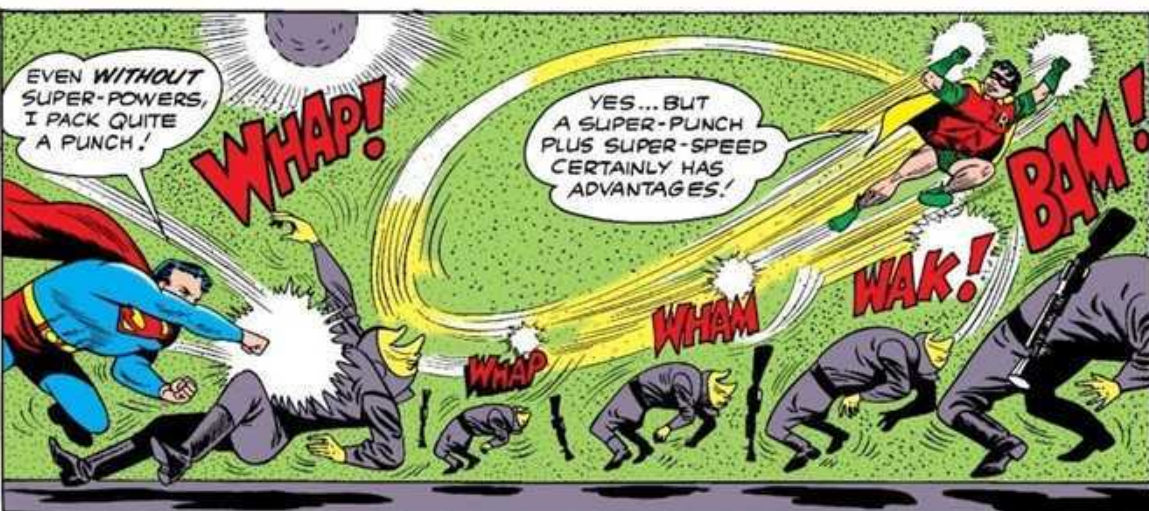


EVEN WITHOUT SUPER-POWERS, I PACK QUITE A PUNCH!

WHAP!

YES... BUT A SUPER-PUNCH PLUS SUPER-SPEED CERTAINLY HAS ADVANTAGES!

BAM!



WE'LL HAVE THEM ALL POLISHED OFF BEFORE LONG!

I'M AFRAID IT WON'T BE AS EASY AS YOU THINK, EVEN WITH YOUR WONDROUS POWERS, STRANGERS FROM AFAR. ONLY A FEW SHORT HOURS AGO, CHORN, THE LEADER OF THE BAXIANS...



"...DISCOVERED SOME DEADLY RELICS IN ONE OF OUR MUSEUMS!"

THE ANCIENT "RELICS" ARE REALLY POWERFUL WAR MACHINES. WITH ENOUGH OF THEM, WE CAN CONQUER ANY PLANET WE ATTACK!



NOW, THE BAXIANS ARE FORCING US TO MANUFACTURE THOSE MACHINES IN OUR FACTORIES...FOR THE ESSENTIAL MINERALS CAN BE FOUND ONLY ON ZORON! I HAVE SEEN THE MACHINES, AND EVEN WITH YOUR POWERS, YOU ARE NO MATCH FOR THEM!



JUST THEN...



BUT THERE IS NO TIME TO SPECULATE--FOR AT THAT VERY MOMENT...

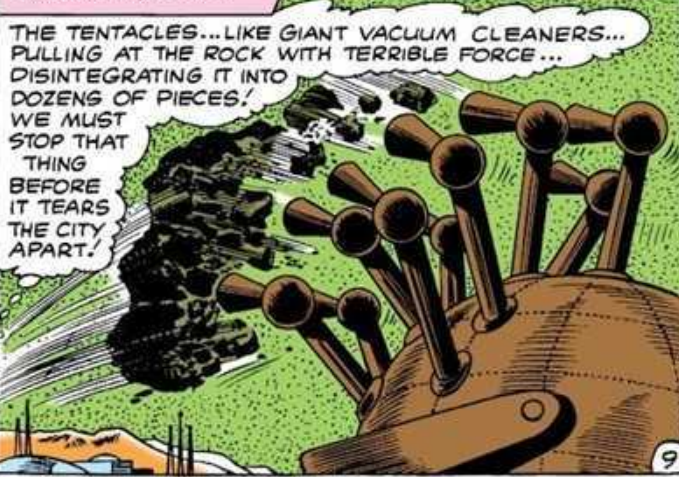


FOOLISH ZORIANS! OUR LEADER, CHORN, WARNED YOU THAT IF YOU RESISTED US, HE WOULD DESTROY PART OF YOUR CITY!

THAT MUST BE ONE OF THE ZORIAN RELICS! WE'LL FIX IT!



BATMAN HURLS THE BOULDER WITH INCREDIBLE STRENGTH, BUT...





INSTANTS LATER, A STRANGE SIGHT OCCURS, AS...



EVEN BEFORE **ROBIN** CAN ANSWER, A HARSH VOICE RINGS OUT...



WHEN THE PAIR REFUSES TO YIELD...



IN A BRIEF INSTANT COMES THE STARTLING ANSWER...



WORKING AT SUPER-SPEED, BATMAN AND ROBIN FASHION A GIANT LENS...

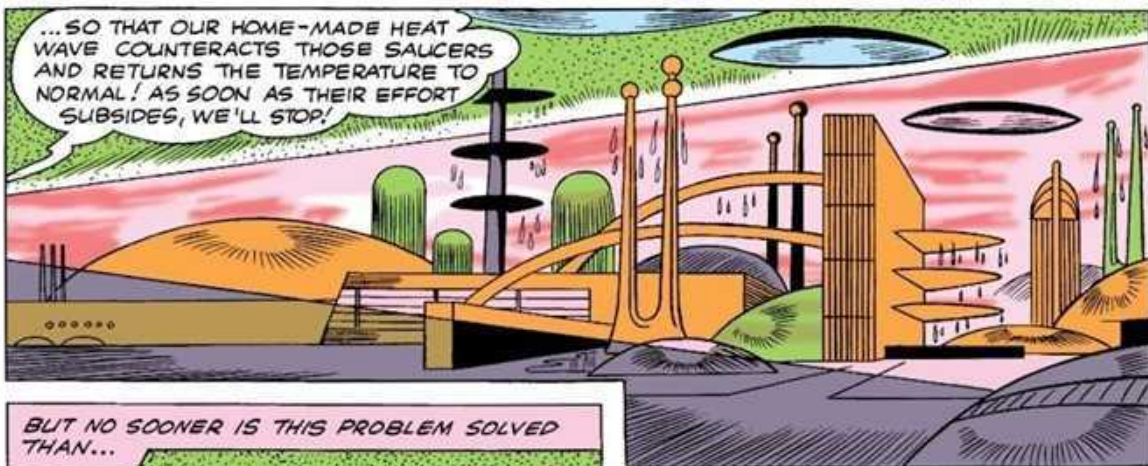
NOW... GET BEHIND IT--AND STARE INTO IT WITH YOUR X-RAY VISION!



THAT'S IT! THE POWERFUL LENS INTENSIFIES THE HEAT OF YOUR X-RAY VISION TO A TREMENDOUS DEGREE...



...SO THAT OUR HOME-MADE HEAT WAVE COUNTERACTS THOSE SAUCERS AND RETURNS THE TEMPERATURE TO NORMAL! AS SOON AS THEIR EFFORT SUBSIDES, WE'LL STOP!



BUT NO SOONER IS THIS PROBLEM SOLVED THAN...

FOOLS!... I WARNED YOU NOT TO MEDDLE! NOW YOU WILL NEVER GET BACK TO WHERE YOU CAME FROM!

TH-THE RAYS OF THAT MACHINE... WEAKENING ME... CAN'T STAND UP!



YES... IN A FEW MOMENTS, THESE RAYS WILL DESTROY YOU!

G-CAN'T CRAWL OUT OF THEIR PATH... W-WE'RE DOOMED, BATMAN!

G-GOODBYE, ROBIN! AT LEAST, WE... WE'RE GOING... TOGETHER!



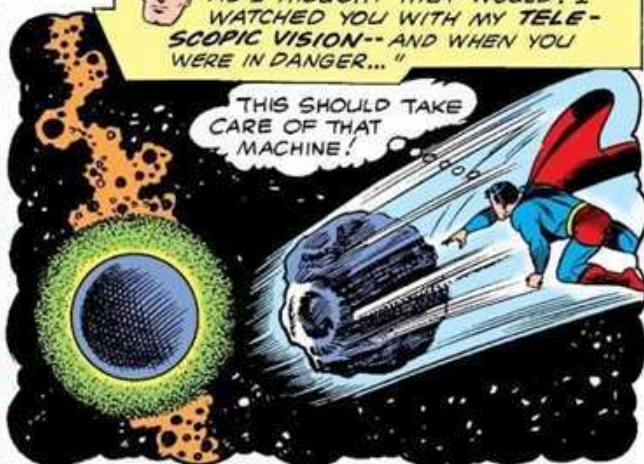
BUT SUDDENLY, WITH DEATH ONLY AN INSTANT AWAY...



SECONDS LATER, A SPACESHIP LANDS, AND OUT STEPS...



"...MY SUPER-POWERS RETURNED, AS I THOUGHT THEY WOULD! I WATCHED YOU WITH MY TELESCOPIC VISION--AND WHEN YOU WERE IN DANGER..."



AND SO, AFTER CHORN AND THE BAXIANS HAVE BEEN EXPELLED FROM ZORON...

NOW THAT YOU'VE GAINED CONTROL OF YOUR WAR MACHINES, CRIMINALS LIKE THE BAXIANS WILL NEVER AGAIN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOU!

THANK YOU, GOOD FRIENDS... WE OWE YOU OUR VERY LIVES!



LATER, BACK ON EARTH...

IT'S GOOD TO BE HOME--EVEN THOUGH WE DON'T HAVE SUPER-POWERS HERE!

IT DOESN'T MATTER MUCH WHICH OF US HAS POWERS...WE DO MAKE A GOOD TEAM WHEREVER WE GO!





FEB.
NO. 115

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

WORLD'S FINEST

COMICS

***'The CURSE
THAT
DOOMED
SUPERMAN!'***



**SUPERMAN'S
GONE HAYWIRE!
HE'S FOCUSING HIS
X-RAY VISION ON THE
WATER--AND CHURNING
IT UP INTO STEAM!**

**YES, BATMAN,
HE MUST BE IN
THE GRIP OF THE
SWAMI!**



YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES

SUPERMAN

and

BATMAN
AND
ROBIN

IN ONE
ADVENTURE
Together!

I AM KING
OF GOTHAM CITY...
AND THIS IS
MY TREASURY!

SUPERMAN'S
WEARING A TWISTED
AUTO WHEEL RIM FOR
A CROWN, AND,--
AND LOOK WHAT
HE'S DOING! STOP,
SUPERMAN--
STOP!

Gotham
BANK

IT'S NO USE,
ROBIN! HE MUST
BE UNDER THE
SWAMI'S SPELL
AGAIN!

NOTHING COULD HARM SUPERMAN UNTIL THE STRANGE SWAMI APPEARED AND UTTERED HIS TERRIBLE THREAT! WHO WAS THIS MYSTIC? WHY DID HE MENACE THE MAN OF STEEL? THESE QUESTIONS MADE UP PART OF THE RIDDLE BATMAN AND ROBIN HAD TO SOLVE BEFORE THEY COULD DISPEL...

the
CURSE
that

**DOOMED
SUPERMAN**

ONE DAY IN METROPOLIS, CROWDS FLOCK TO SEE **SUPERMAN** MAKE A SCHEDULED APPEARANCE...

WHAT'S GOING ON?

SUPERMAN'S GOING TO BLAST A TUNNEL THROUGH THAT MOUNTAIN FOR THE CITY! THERE MAY BE A POCKET OF NATURAL GAS IN THERE, AND HE CAN SEAL IT OFF BEFORE ANY SEEPS OUT!



SUDDENLY, AS THE **MAN OF STEEL** MOVES AT EYE-BLURRING SPEED...

HALT! DO NOT COME ANY CLOSER!

HUH?
WH-WHO ARE YOU?



I AM OMIR... SWAMI OF "THE MYSTIC ORDER OF VEGAL!" THIS VERY MOUNTAIN IS THE POINT AT WHICH THE BEAMS OF TWO SACRED STARS CONVERGE! IT MAY NOT BE DEFILED! **LEAVE AT ONCE!**



BUT IT IS THE SWAMI WHO LEAVES UNDER POLICE ESCORT...

I AM POWERLESS **NOW**... BUT IF YOU DARE TRESPASS ON THAT SACRED LAND, YOU WILL SEE WHAT POWERS I CAN SUMMON!

HA, HA!
LISTEN TO THAT BALMY SWAMI THREATEN **SUPERMAN!**



MOMENTS LATER, **SUPERMAN** RESUMES HIS WORK...



NEXT DAY, AS **SUPERMAN** MAKES ANOTHER SCHEDULED APPEARANCE AT GOTHAM CITY, ALONG WITH **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, THE BOY WONDER...

AT NOON TOMORROW, I'LL CARRY THIS ROCKET TO METROPOLIS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS!

GIVE TO CHILDREN'S CHARITY FUND
MAKE YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ROCKET OVER THE MILLION DOLLAR MARK

THE PEOPLE OF GOTHAM CITY HAVE DEPOSITED ALMOST A HALF-MILLION DOLLARS IN THAT ROCKET! WE HAVE ONLY TILL TOMORROW TO FILL OUR QUOTA!

DONLON'S THEATRICAL WAREHOUSE

SUDDENLY, A FAMILIAR FIGURE BURSTS FORTH...

SUPERMAN--YOU IGNORED MY WARNING AND PROFANED THE LAND THAT WAS SACRED TO VEGAL! THEREFORE, I MUST BRING DOWN ON YOUR HEAD THE ANCIENT CURSE OF THE STARS!

MAY THE GOOD THAT YOU DO BE FOLLOWED BY EVIL! BY THE BRILLIANCE OF THE SACRED STARS AND THE FIVE-STARRED NAME OF **VEGAL**, I WILL IT!

GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE WE RUN YOU IN!

I GO... BUT MY DREAD WORDS REMAIN!

SOUNDS LIKE A CRACKPOT, DOESN'T HE, **BATMAN**? HE REALLY THINKS **SUPERMAN** HAS DONE HIM AN INJUSTICE!





NOT LONG AFTER, BACK IN METROPOLIS,
ANOTHER CRISIS LOOMS...

THAT MECHANICAL MONSTER, ADVERTISING
A NEW FILM, IS OUT OF CONTROL! I'LL HAVE
TO GRAB IT BEFORE IT SMASHES INTO
TRAFFIC!



AND A SPLIT-SECOND LATER...

WHEW!
HE
GOT IT
JUST IN
TIME!



HIGHER AND HIGHER STREAKS THE FAKE
MONSTER, LIKE A MISSILE IN SPACE! THEN,
AS IT DESCENDS...



NO SOONER DOES THE BLAZING "BEAST"
PLUMMET INTO HIS HANDS THAN...



MAYBE... BUT WE HAVEN'T
TIME TO TALK NOW!
HE'S FLYING SO LOW,
THOSE FLAMES MAY
IGNITE MUSICAL
VILLAGE! LET'S
GO!

JUDGING BY THE PATH HE'S TAKING, HE'LL PASS RIGHT HERE! FOLLOW ME UP! I'VE GOT AN IDEA!

WHIPPING A BLADE FROM HIS UTILITY BELT, **BATMAN** CUTS SOME OF THE ACCORDION'S FOLDS...

NOW... GET OUT YOUR **BAT-ROPE**! AS SOON AS **SUPERMAN** APPROACHES, DO JUST AS I SAY!

MOMENTS LATER...

THAT WAS CLEVER OF **BATMAN**! AS WE COMPRESS THE ACCORDION, AIR IS FORCED THROUGH THE OPENINGS HE MADE, TRANSFORMING THE ACCORDION INTO A BELLOWS...

WHOOOSH!

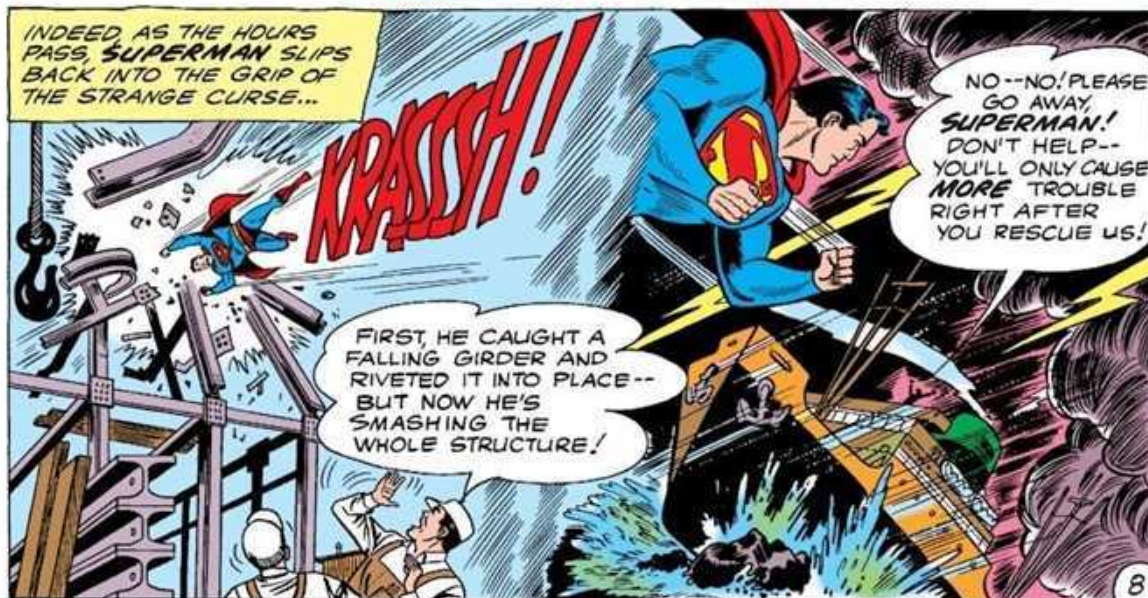
... AND BLOWING OUT THE FLAMES!

WHOOOSH!

AND AS **SUPERMAN** DISCARDS THE DEBRIS...

YES... BUT I WONDER IF AND WHEN THE ER-- SPELL ... WILL GRIP HIM AGAIN! I'M GOING TO SEE WHAT I CAN FIND OUT ABOUT THAT SWAMI! YOU KEEP AN EYE ON **SUPERMAN**!

HE SEEMS TO HAVE COME BACK TO HIS SENSES AGAIN!



THEN NEXT DAY, AT NOON...

IT'S TIME FOR ME TO DELIVER THAT ROCKET TO METROPOLIS!

PLEASE, SUPERMAN-- L-LEAVE IT HERE! I DON'T LIKE TO SAY THIS... BUT YOU CAN'T BE TRUSTED! ASK YOUR FRIENDS... **BATMAN AND ROBIN!** THEY KNOW ABOUT THE SWAMI'S CURSE!



I CAN UNDERSTAND YOUR CONCERN, BUT I'M BACK TO MYSELF AGAIN! I CAN TELL BY THE WAY I FEEL! IF YOU WANT PROOF, WATCH **THIS!**



YOU SEE...? NO EVIL FOLLOWS THE GOOD I DID! YOU CAN FORGET THE SWAMI'S CURSE... OR WHATEVER IT WAS! IT'S GONE!



BUT NO SOONER HAVE THE WORDS BEEN UTTERED THAN...

LOOK-- THAT EXPRESSION ON HIS FACE!

SOMETHING'S COME OVER HIM!



HE'S STARING AHEAD, AND-- **GREAT SCOTT!** HIDING BEHIND THOSE SHRUBS... A MAN... WITH A **RED STONE**... LIKE THE GEM IN THE SWAMI'S TURBAN! LET'S TAKE HIM, **ROBIN!** THIS THING IS BEGINNING TO MAKE SENSE... **TERRIBLE SENSE!**



BUT WHEN THE DYNAMIC DUO REACHES THE SPOT...

HE SAW US COMING AND GOT AWAY-- BUT HE LOST HIS HAT!

LET'S TAKE IT TO THE BAT-CAVE AT ONCE TO ANALYZE IT FOR CLUES!



AS THEY RACE TO THE BATMOBILE...

THIS SHOULD MAKE A GOOD CROWN!

BATMAN--LOOK! SUPERMAN RIPPED THAT WHEEL RIM OFF A CAR AND IS TWISTING IT INTO A CROWN!



I AM KING OF GOTHAM CITY... AND THIS IS MY TREASURY!

IF MY HUNCH IS RIGHT, WE CAN'T STOP HIM... BUT MAY BE ABLE TO PREVENT EVEN WORSE SPELLS IN THE FUTURE!



I BELIEVE THE "GEM" IN THE SWAMI'S TURBAN AND THE RED STONE THAT MAN HELD WERE THE SAME... BOTH WERE RED KRYPTONITE... THE SUBSTANCE WHICH HAS TERRIBLE AND UNPREDICTABLE EFFECTS ON SUPERMAN! MY THEORY IS, WHOEVER EXPOSED HIM TO IT WANTED HIM OUT OF THE WAY...



...BUT DIDN'T WANT ANYONE TO SUSPECT HIS MOTIVE! THAT'S WHY HE PRETENDED TO BE A SWAMI, SO WE'D THINK THE CURSE AND NOT THE RED STONE WAS RESPONSIBLE!



SHORTLY IN THE BAT-CAVE...

OUR ONLY CLUES TO HIS IDENTITY ARE THIS HAT AND THE EGYPTIAN PIN! WHILE WE TEST THIS HAT, LET'S HOPE SUPERMAN DOESN'T CAUSE TOO MUCH TROUBLE!



BUT ELSEWHERE, **BATMAN'S** HOPES ARE FAR FROM BEING FULFILLED...

THE KING WAS IN THE COUNTING HOUSE, COUNTING OUT HIS MONEY...

WH-WHAT'S COME OVER HIM?



AND MOMENTS LATER...

HE'S GONE COMPLETELY HAYWIRE--MAKING LIKE A PLAYFUL PORPOISE!



MEANWHILE, IN THE **BAT-CAVE**...

TRACES OF CLAY AND CEMENT WERE IN THE HAT! THEY MUST HAVE BEEN IN HIS **HAIR**! **HMM...** THAT CLAY COMES FROM THE DEPOSITS IN THE SUBSTRATUM OF GOTHAM CITY... ABOUT TEN FEET DOWN! HOW DID IT GET IN HIS **HAIR**?



WAIT A MINUTE, I THINK I KNOW! THE CLAY... CEMENT... THAT ANCIENT PIN... THEY ALL ADD UP! COME ON, **ROBIN**-- WE HAVEN'T A SECOND TO LOSE!



SHORTLY...

THE PIN MUST'VE COME FROM THAT WAREHOUSE WHERE THEATRICAL EQUIPMENT IS STORED... THE CLAY AND CEMENT FROM A **TUNNEL** BEING DUG UNDER THE STREET!

I GET IT! WOW!

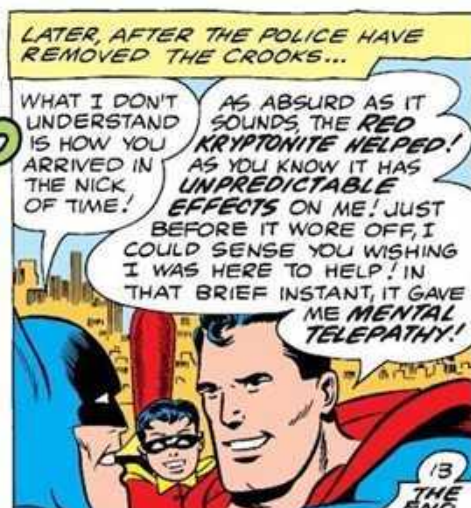
A TUNNEL FROM THE WAREHOUSE-- THE HIDEOUT-- TO THE **CHARITY ROCKET**!



EXACTLY! AND **SUPERMAN** WAS TO BE PUT OUT OF THE WAY... BECAUSE HE WAS GOING TO FLY OFF WITH THE ROCKET **BEFORE** THE TUNNEL WAS DUG! WHEN HE WAS AFFECTED BY THE **RED KRYPTONITE**, HE WASN'T ALLOWED TO MOVE IT! NOW, LET'S SEE IF I'M RIGHT!







**WORLD'S
FINEST
COMICS**



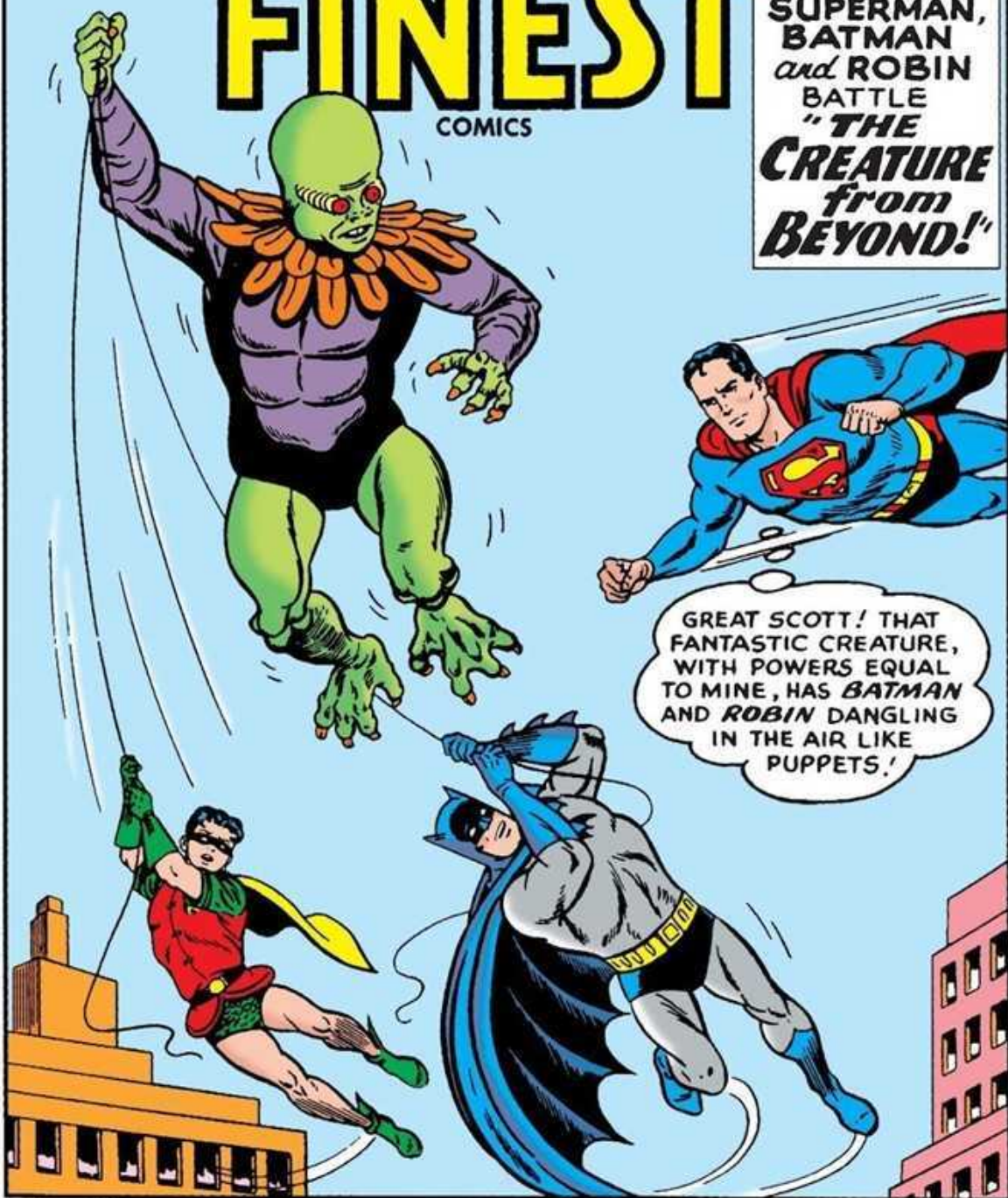
WORLD'S FINEST

COMICS



MAR.
NO. 116

**SUPERMAN,
BATMAN
and ROBIN
BATTLE
"THE
CREATURE
from
BEYOND!"**



GREAT SCOTT! THAT
FANTASTIC CREATURE,
WITH POWERS EQUAL
TO MINE, HAS *BATMAN*
AND *ROBIN* DANGLING
IN THE AIR LIKE
PUPPETS!

YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES

SUPERMAN
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

and

BATMAN
AND
ROBIN

IN ONE
ADVENTURE
Together!

FROM OUT OF NOWHERE IT
CAME, A MONSTER WITH THE
STRENGTH OF **SUPERMAN**,
THE BRAINPOWER OF **BATMAN**
AND **ROBIN**! AND WHILE
A WHOLE CITY WATCHED
HELPLESSLY, THE TITANIC
TRIO WONDERED IF THERE
WAS **ANY** WAY TO STOP...

The
CREATURE
from
BEYOND!

IT'S INCREDIBLE,
ROBIN... THAT
CREATURE IS
JUST AS STRONG
AS **SUPERMAN**!

PAUL
BUNYAN



ONE EVENING, AS **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** SET OUT ON THEIR PATROL OF GOTHAM CITY...

WE'VE GOT A BUSY EVENING AHEAD, **ROBIN**. AND WE DIDN'T GET A CHANCE TO EAT BEFORE! SUPPOSE WE GRAB A SNACK AT THAT STAND...

FINE, **BATMAN**!

AS THE TWO PLACE THEIR ORDER...

BATMAN AND **ROBIN**! BET YOU'RE SURPRISED TO SEE ME HERE, EH?

VANCE COLLINS! THE **LAST** TIME WE SAW YOU...



AS THE COSTUMED PAIR DRIVES AWAY...

THERE WAS ALWAYS SOMETHING LIKEABLE ABOUT VANCE--EVEN WHEN HE WAS A CROOK! IF WE CAN HELP HIM GO STRAIGHT, WE'RE SURE GOING TO TRY!

SEE THE CREATURE FROM BEYOND

MEANWHILE, IN NEARBY METROPOLIS, **ANOTHER** COSTUMED CRIME-FIGHTER LOOKS SKYWARD, AND GASPS IN AMAZEMENT...

UP THERE--APPROACHING THE NEWEST SATELLITE WE LAUNCHED... GREAT SCOTT! I'D BETTER TAKE CARE OF IT AT ONCE!

UP... UP SOARS **SUPERMAN**...

THAT WEIRD,
CROWNED COMET...
ABOUT TO CRASH
INTO THE
SATELLITE!



WHEN THE TWO HEAVENLY BODIES COLLIDE...

A STRANGE RAY
LANCING DOWN...
CAUSED BY THE IMPACT...
I'VE NEVER SEEN
ANYTHING QUITE
LIKE IT!

CR-RASH!



WELL, NO TIME TO
WORRY ABOUT **THAT**
NOW! THE COLLISION
TURNED THE ARTIFICIAL
SATELLITE INTO A MASS
OF GLOWING, RED-HOT
METAL! I MUST GRAB IT
BEFORE IT
FALLS ON
THE CITY...



INSTANTS LATER...

I'LL GET RID OF IT
IN THE SEA, WHERE
IT WILL DO NO HARM!



THAT SAME EVENING, AS
BATMAN'S PATROL
BRINGS HIM AND **ROBIN**
TO **WONDERLAND**,
FAMED AMUSEMENT
CENTER OF
GOTHAM CITY...

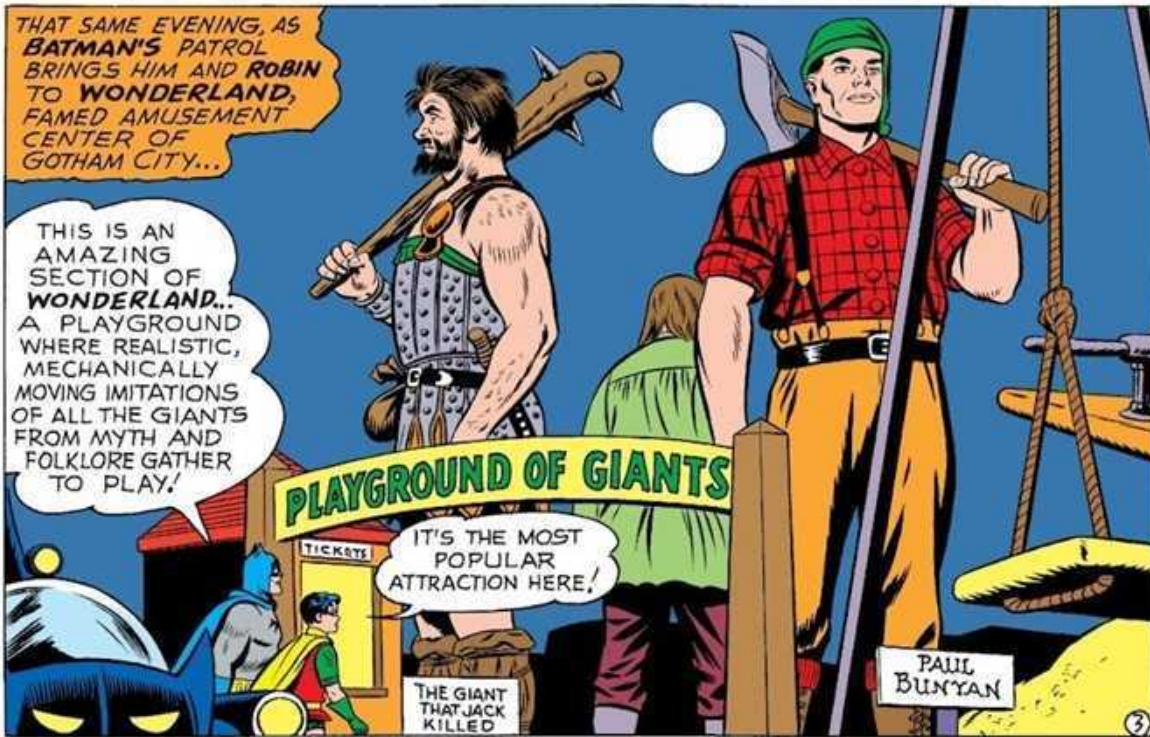
THIS IS AN
AMAZING
SECTION OF
WONDERLAND..
A PLAYGROUND
WHERE REALISTIC,
MECHANICALLY
MOVING IMITATIONS
OF ALL THE GIANTS
FROM MYTH AND
FOLKLORE GATHER
TO PLAY!

PLAYGROUND OF GIANTS

IT'S THE MOST
POPULAR
ATTRACTION HERE!

THE GIANT
THAT JACK
KILLED

**PAUL
BUNYAN**



JUST THEN...

HERE WE ARE
AS USUAL, FOLKS,
REPORTING THE
DOINGS AT
WONDERLAND
AND--GOOD GRIEF!--
WH-WHAT'S THAT?



OH, OF COURSE... HA, HA...
IT MUST BE A MODEL OF
THE **CREATURE FROM**
BEYOND YOU'VE SEEN
ADVERTISED ON BILLBOARDS
ALL OVER TOWN!
I GUESS THE
MANAGEMENT
IS ADDING IT TO
ITS COLLECTION.

IT SURE IS REALISTIC...
HAD **ME** FOOLED
FOR A MOMENT!



SUDDENLY...

HEY! THAT
ROBOT'S GONE
BERSERK! IT'S
SNATCHED UP THE
GATE RECEIPTS
AND IS RIPPING
THE BOX OPEN!



WH-WHAT IS
IT? A ROBOT
DIRECTED BY
SOMEONE, OR--?

I DON'T KNOW...
BUT WHEN WE
HIT, WE'LL SURE
FIND OUT!



THE DYNAMIC
DUO LEAPS
TO A GIANT
SWING, AND...

COME ON, **ROBIN**...
WHATEVER THAT THING
IS, WE MUST STOP IT!



BUT AS THEY SWING TOWARD THE CREATURE...

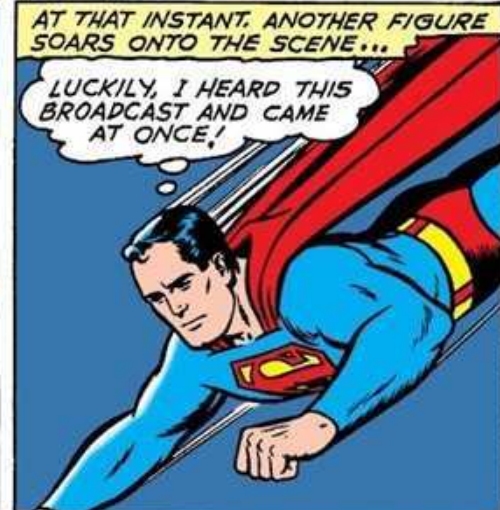
GOOD GRIEF! JAGGED STREAKS OF FLAME... LIKE LIGHTNING... FROM ITS TALONS! TH-THIS **CAN'T** BE AN ORDINARY ROBOT!



IT... IT'S SEVERED THE ROPES AND SENT **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** FLYING! BUT THEY'RE DIVING TOWARDS THE GIANT FIGURE TO SAVE THEMSELVES!

AT THAT INSTANT, ANOTHER FIGURE SOARS ONTO THE SCENE...

LUCKILY, I HEARD THIS BROADCAST AND CAME AT ONCE!



MY X-RAY VISION REVEALS THAT THING IS **NOT** A MECHANICAL MODEL! IT'S **ALIVE!** SOMEHOW, A REPLICA OF THAT BILLBOARD CREATURE IS NOW A THING OF **FLESH AND BLOOD!** LUCKILY, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** ARE SAFE... BUT WHAT WILL BE MY FATE, WHEN I COMBAT IT HAND-TO-HAND?

THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL HASN'T LONG TO FIND OUT...







AND WHEN **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** COME BY ON THEIR PATROL...



I DON'T KNOW... BUT LET'S WHIP OUT OUR **BAT-ROPES** AND PAY THEM A SURPRISE VISIT!

CROOKS! HOW COULD THEY HAVE BROKEN IN THERE?

SILKEN LINES SNAKE THROUGH THE AIR-- BUT AS **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** SWING UPWARD...



HA, HA!... I RETURNED JUST IN TIME!



YOU'RE JUST PUPPETS IN MY HANDS, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**! DON'T INTERFERE WITH MY MEN AGAIN!

GREAT THUNDER! THE CREATURE-- TALKING... AND WORKING WITH **HUMAN CROOKS**! WHY-WHY SHOULD IT DO THAT?

AT EYE-BLURRING SPEED, THE CREATURE RENDERS ITS FOE HELPLESS...

HA, HA... HELD BY YOUR OWN **BAT-ROPES**!



BUT AT THAT INSTANT...

GREAT SCOTT! **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** TIED UP-- AND THAT CREATURE HELPING CROOKS COMMIT A CRIME! I'LL GO FOR IT NOW WITH ALL I'VE GOT!



THE MAN OF STEEL DESCENDS LIKE A DIVE-BOMBER, BUT...

IT ISN'T HARMED BY THE BLASTING HEAT OF MY X-RAY VISION...BUT IT IS TRYING TO GET AWAY! HMMM... I COULD FOLLOW IT UNDERGROUND, BUT ITS IMPACT WITH EARTH HAS WEAKENED THAT BUILDING. I'LL HAVE TO LET IT GO...

WHAMMP

... AND TEMPORARILY REPAIR THIS BUILDING BEFORE IT FALLS! I'LL REMOVE THE THICK METAL BAND FROM THIS MODEL HAT...

BUY KLOX HATS

... AND USE IT TO TIE THIS WEAKENED BUILDING TO ITS NEIGHBOR, NOW TO FREE BATMAN AND ROBIN, AND GET BACK ON THE TRACK OF THE BILLBOARD CREATURE!

LATER, AS THE TRIO TOURS TOWN, LOOKING FOR A TRACE OF THE CREATURE...

COMMISSIONER GORDON! WHAT ARE YOU--?

I'M DIRECTING THE SEARCH MYSELF, **BATMAN!** THAT CREATURE DISAPPEARED IN THIS AREA AGAIN, AND WE THINK HE'S HIDING WITH ONE OF HIS **HUMAN CONFEDERATES!** I'M SEARCHING THE APARTMENT OF EVERYONE WITH A CRIMINAL RECORD IN THIS REGION!

SUDDENLY, A VOICE RINGS OUT...

I'M INNOCENT, I TELL YOU...
INNOCENT!

THAT'S VANCE COLLINS!
LET'S GET UP THERE!

A MOMENT LATER...

BATMAN AND ROBIN!

THEY'VE FOUND SOME OF THE CREATURE'S LOOT IN **MY ROOM...** BUT THE JACKSON MOB MUST HAVE PLANTED IT THERE. THEY WERE HERE EARLIER, AND ASKED ME TO JOIN UP WITH THEM AGAIN, BUT I TURNED THEM DOWN!

HMM... WE CAN'T STOP THE POLICE FROM TAKING YOU, BUT I BELIEVE YOU, VANCE, AND WE'LL LOOK INTO IT!



AFTERWARD, IN A LOCAL JAIL...

BATMAN AND ROBIN KNOW I'M GOING STRAIGHT... THEY'LL PROVE THAT I WAS FRAMED!

TH-THAT PURPLE GLOW... D-DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?

I GULP! SURE DO!



BEFORE THE ASTONISHED EYES OF THE GUARDS, AN INCREDIBLE CHANGE TAKES PLACE...



NEXT INSTANT...

HA, HA... NO JAIL CAN HOLD ME!

QUICK, TELL COMMISSIONER GORDON... **BATMAN... ROBIN... SUPERMAN!** VANCE COLLINS IS THE CREATURE! THIS IS UNBELIEVABLE!



WHEN THE ASTOUNDING NEWS REACHES THE TRIO...

THAT WEIRD RAY MUST HAVE HIT VANCE AFTER IT BURN'T THE CREATURE'S PICTURE FROM THE BILLBOARD! A FREAK REACTION CAUSED HIM TO **BECOME** THE CREATURE! HE'S LIKE A JEKYLL AND HYDE CHARACTER NOW! I'M GOING TO TRY TO FIND HIM!

AND I'M GOING TO WORK ON A HUNCH OF MY OWN!



SOON, IN VANCE'S APARTMENT...

WHY WAIT **HERE?** NOW THAT THE POLICE **KNOW** VANCE IS THE CREATURE, HE'LL NEVER RETURN!

I'M NOT SO SURE... I HAVE A FUNNY NOTION ABOUT THIS CASE!





LATER, IN MOB LEADER JACKSON'S HIDEOUT...

HIS POWERS WON'T LAST **FOREVER!** I ARRANGED FOR HIM TO LOOT THAT SWANK GEM SHOP... **THE TREASURE SHIP...** AND WE'LL HAVE ENOUGH DOUGH TO RETIRE!

JACKSON...THE OTHER MOBSTERS...HOW DID I...? **NOW I REMEMBER!** ME...THE CREATURE... MUST BE TRUE...HOW ELSE WOULD I GET OUT OF JAIL?



WITH ELECTRIFYING SPEED, VANCE LEAPS THROUGH AN OPEN WINDOW...

MUST GET OUT OF HERE... **FAST!**

BOSS! L-LOOK! HE'S CHANGED TO VANCE!

COME ON! AFTER HIM!



BUT AFTER A USELESS SEARCH...

WELL, I GUESS WE'LL FORGET THAT LAST JOB!

THEN YOU GUESS **WRONG!** HE'LL BE THERE... WHEN HE CHANGES BACK TO THE MONSTER! AND IF WE'RE WAITING FOR HIM, HE'LL GET THE LOOT, AND HELP US MAKE A GET-AWAY... WITHOUT ANYONE BEING ABLE TO STOP HIM! WE'LL HIDE OUTSIDE THERE AND WAIT!



NEXT EVENING...

I TOLD YOU... ONCE HE CHANGED TO THE MONSTER, HE'D BE ON THE JOB!



COME ON... HE'S MOTIONING FOR US TO JOIN HIM-- JUST LIKE WE PLANNED!

BUT SOMETHING IN THE PLAN HAS **CHANGED...**

SURPRISE, JACKSON!

HUH--? IT'S STILL VANCE, **DISGUISED** AS THE CREATURE!





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